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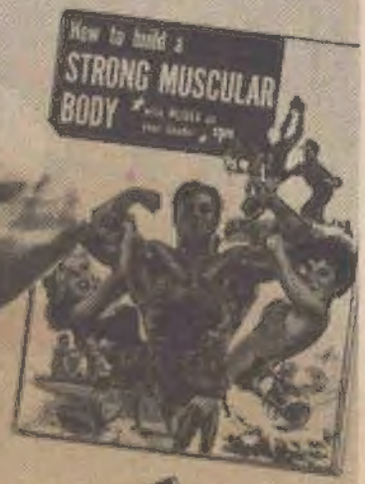

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RETURN OF THE NEANDERTHAL MAN!

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STRANGE ADVENTURES, No. 126, March, 1961. Published monthly by NATIONAL COMICS PUBLICATIONS, INC., 2nd and Dickey Streets, SPARTA, ILL. Editorial, Executive offices and Subscriptions, 575 LEXINGTON AVENUE, NEW YORK 22, N. Y. Julius Schwartz, Editor. SECOND CLASS POSTAGE PAID AT SPARTA, ILL. under the act of March 3, 1879. Yearly subscription in the U.S. $1.50 including postage. Foreign, $3.00 in American funds. For advertising rates address Richard A. Feldon & Co., 205 East 42nd St., New York 17, N. Y.
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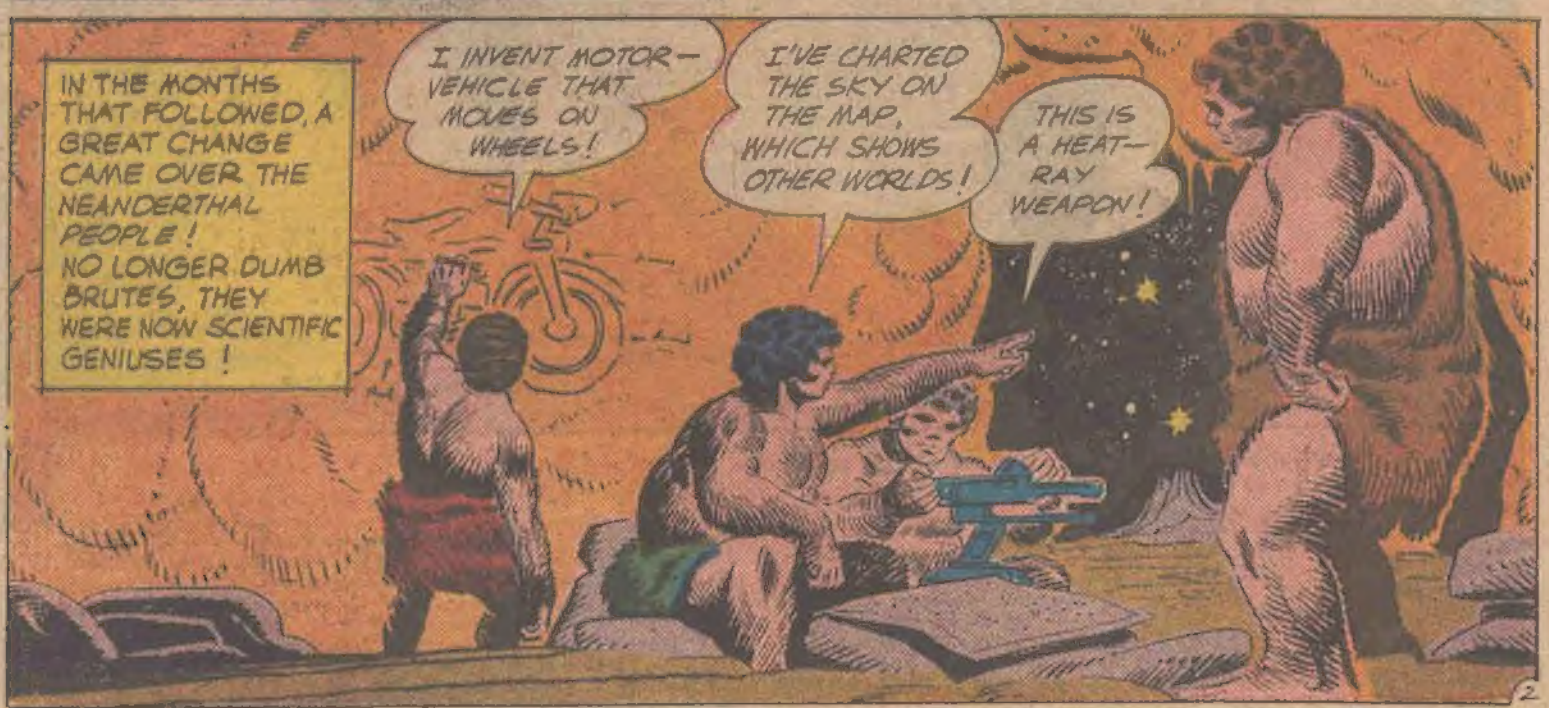
*Editor's Note: THE EXACT DATE OF THE INVENTION OF THE BLOWGUN IS NOT KNOWN. ITS EARLIEST KNOWN USE IN EUROPE WAS 1475 A.D.



THEN CAME A DAY WHEN OLD BOGON, OLDEST OF THE TRIBE, ADMITTED HIS WORRY TO OGAR...
THE RED AIR BROUGHT US GREAT WISDOM -- BUT IT ALSO BROUGHT A PLAGUE! IF WE DO NOT LEAVE THIS WORLD AT ONCE, WE WILL DIE OUT!
WE MUST ALL WORK ON A MACHINE TO SEND US TO A PLACE OF HIDING!

WITHIN A WEEK THE NEANDERTHAL MEN COMPLETED A TELE-PORTATIONAL MACHINE...
THE MACHINE WILL TRANSFER US INTO THE DIMENSIONAL WORLD ADJOINING THIS ONE! WE SHALL STAY IN THAT LAND UNTIL THE PLAGUE IS GONE!

THE LAST CAVEMAN TO TRAVEL INTO DIMENSIONAL SPACE WAS OGAR...
THE MACHINE WILL GO WITH ME! WHEN THE AIR IS CLEAR WE'LL SEND IT BACK SO WE OURSELVES CAN RETURN!

IN THE YEAR OF EARTH, 1961 A.D., YOUNG ANTHROPOLOGIST PAUL DOVER IS LOWERING A CAMERA DRILL INTO THE GROUND WHEN...
THE CAMERA HIDDEN INSIDE THE METAL DRILL WILL REVEAL IF THERE'S ANYTHING WORTH--HEY, STEVE! THE DRILL IS SPINNING FREE! I'VE DISCOVERED SOME KIND OF EXCAVATION!

THAT NIGHT IN HIS FIELD TENT, PAUL DEVELOPS THE NEGATIVES...
Hmm... IT SHOWS SOME SORT OF CAVE-CHAMBER AND--GOOD GOSH! THE DEVELOPED FILM SHOWS A CRUDE-- ELECTRIC LIGHT BULB!

HIGHLY EXCITED, DOVER RACES TO THE SITE OF HIS DISCOVERY AND IS SOON DIGGING EAGERLY...
IT'S INCREDIBLE THAT ELECTRICITY COULD HAVE BEEN KNOWN IN CAVE MAN TIMES! YET THE EVIDENCE IS THERE!

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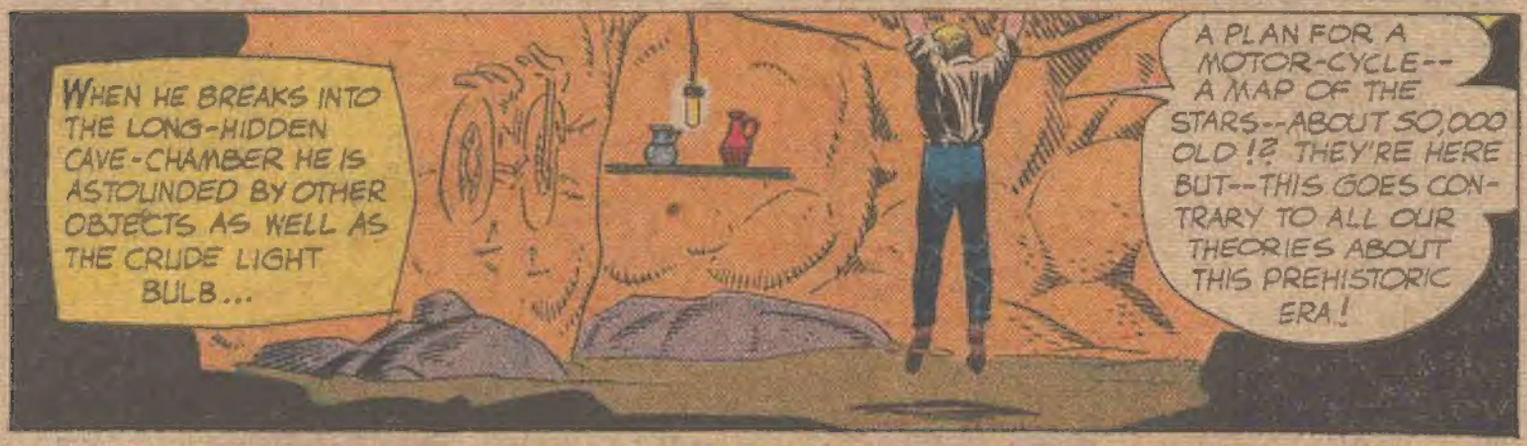
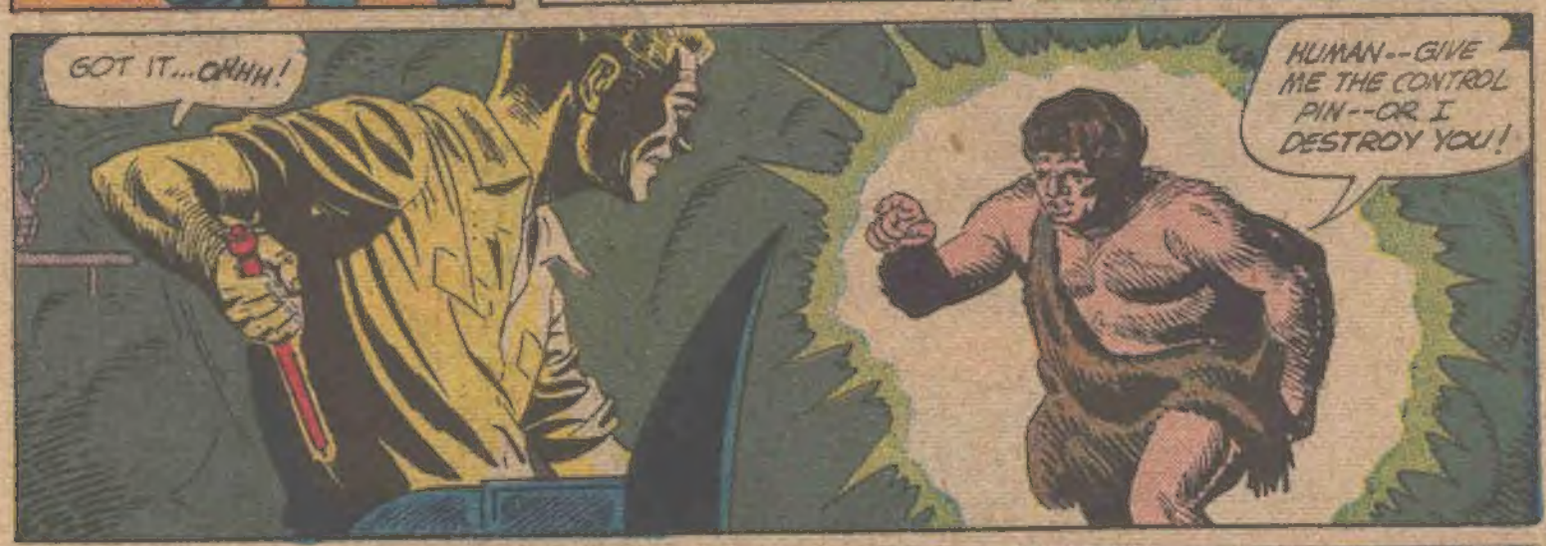


AS THE TELEPATHIC VOICE FADES OUT...
GOT TO DESTROY THIS TELEPORTER! IF THOSE SUPER—NEANDERTHALS COME INTO OUR WORLD THEY'LL DESTROY OUR ENTIRE CIVILIZATION!

IN THE LAND OF HYPER-SPACE..
OGAR--LOOK! A "HUMAN" IS TRYING TO SMASH OUR TELEPORTER! IF HE DOES, WE'LL BE STRANDED IN THIS BLEAK PLACE FOREVER!
I'LL GO THROUGH AND STOP HIM! LUCKILY HE DOESN'T REALIZE HE HAS TO REMOVE THE CONTROL PIN TO TURN IT OFF!

ALMOST AS IF OGAR WERE SPEAKING TO HIM, PAUL DOVER "OVERHEARS" HIS THOUGHTS...
CONTROL PIN? WHY, THAT MUST BE THIS THING HERE! I'LL REMOVE IT--


GOT IT...OHHH!
HUMAN--GIVE ME THE CONTROL PIN--OR I DESTROY YOU!

WITH A CUNNING JUDO HOLD, THE YOUNG ANTHROPOLOGIST SENDS OGAR FLYING HEAD FIRST INTO THE SIDE OF THE CAVE CHAMBER...
YOU MAY BE A GENIUS--BUT YOU DON'T KNOW EVERYTHING! TRY THIS, FELLA!

WHILE OGAR IS RECOVERING HIS DAZED SENSES, PAUL DOVER RACES THROUGH THE NIGHT...
GOT TO WAKE STEVE UP-- GET AWAY AND HIDE THIS CONTROL PIN! WITHOUT IT, THE REST OF THE NEANDERTHALS CAN'T CROSS OVER INTO OUR WORLD!

SHORTLY THEREAFTER HE IS SPEEDING ALONG A COUNTRY ROAD, HIS ASSISTANT BESIDE HIM...
I'LL DROP YOU OFF AT THE MUSEUM, STEVE! THEN I'M GOING OFF BY MYSELF TO GET RID OF THE TELEPORTATIONAL CONTROL PIN!

SOMEWHAT LATER, AFTER DEPOSITING STEVE AT THE MUSEUM AND HIDING THE CONTROL PIN, THE YOUNG ANTHROPOLOGIST RETURNS TO THE MUSEUM..
WHERE'D YOU HIDE IT, PAUL?
I'D BETTER NOT TELL YOU, STEVE!
5TH floor

IT'LL BE SAFER IF JUST ONE OF US KNOWS WHERE IT IS!
ONLY I KNOW IT'S BURIED NEAR THE DEAD TREE AT CROSSROADS CORNERS!

SUDDENLY THE DIORAMIC FIGURE OF THE NEANDERTHAL MAN STIRS! HIS EYES OPEN AND GLOW STRANGELY...
INCREDIBLE THAT A MERE CAVE MAN SHOULD THREATEN THE SAFETY OF--
STEVE--LOOK OUT! THAT NEANDERTHAL DUMMY IN THERE IS--ALIVE!

TWIN BOLTS SHOOT FROM THE EYES OF THE NEANDERTHAL MAN! AS THE RADIATIONS TOUCH STEVE AND THE GUARD, THEIR BODIES ALTER--BECOME CRUDE AND BRUTISH...

GREAT SCOTT! THAT'S NO DUMMY! IT'S THE NEANDERTHAL I FOUGHT IN THE CAVE CHAMBER! HE FOLLOWED ME HERE--THEN TOOK THE PLACE OF THE NEANDERTHAL DUMMY IN THAT DIORAMIC WINDOW TO TRY AND LEARN WHERE I HID THE CONTROL PIN! I'VE GOT TO ALERT THE AUTHORITIES OF THE DANGER--

EVEN AS HE GUNS HIS JEEP TOWARD THE POLICE STATION, AN ALARMING THOUGHT STRIKES PAUL DOVER...

I JUST HAPPENED TO THINK THE NEANDERTHALS TELEPATHED THEIR THOUGHTS TO ME! THAT MEANS THEY MUST BE ABLE TO READ **MY** THOUGHTS AS WELL!

WHEN STEVE ASKED ME WHERE I HID THE CONTROL PIN, I DIDN'T TELL HIM--BUT I *THOUGHT* ABOUT ITS HIDING PLACE! THE NEANDERTHAL KNOWS, THEN--AND HAS PROBABLY GONE TO GET THE CONTROL PIN!

HIS HEART SLAMMING EXCITEDLY, THE ANTHROPOLOGIST HURRIES TO THE DIGGINGS, WHERE...

I WAS RIGHT! HE ***DID*** READ MY MIND--AND HAS THE CONTROL PIN! BUT NOW THAT I'VE FOUND HIM--WHAT DO I DO NEXT?

IF I TRY TO SNEAK UP ON HIM, ATTACK HIM BY SURPRISE, MY THOUGHTS WOULD BETRAY ME--AND HE'D TURN ME INTO A NEANDERTHAL LIKE HE DID STEVE AND THE GUARD! YET THERE MUST BE SOME WAY--

SOMETIME LATER, IN THE SUB-TERRANEAN CHAMBER...

THE HUMAN BENT THE CONTROL PIN! I HAD TO WASTE PRECIOUS TIME FIXING IT! NOW I'M READY--UHH--THERE'S SOMEONE BEHIND ME!

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Rip Hunter... TIME MASTER

NOW IN A MAGAZINE OF HIS OWN!

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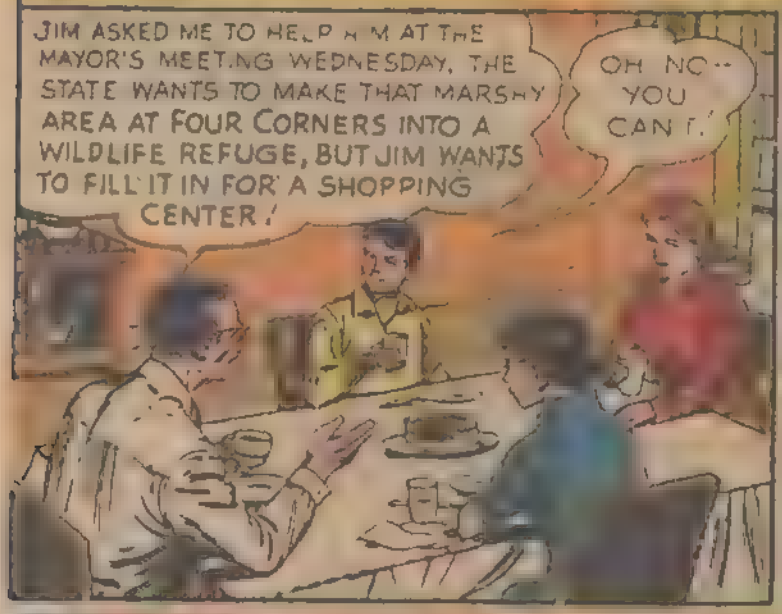

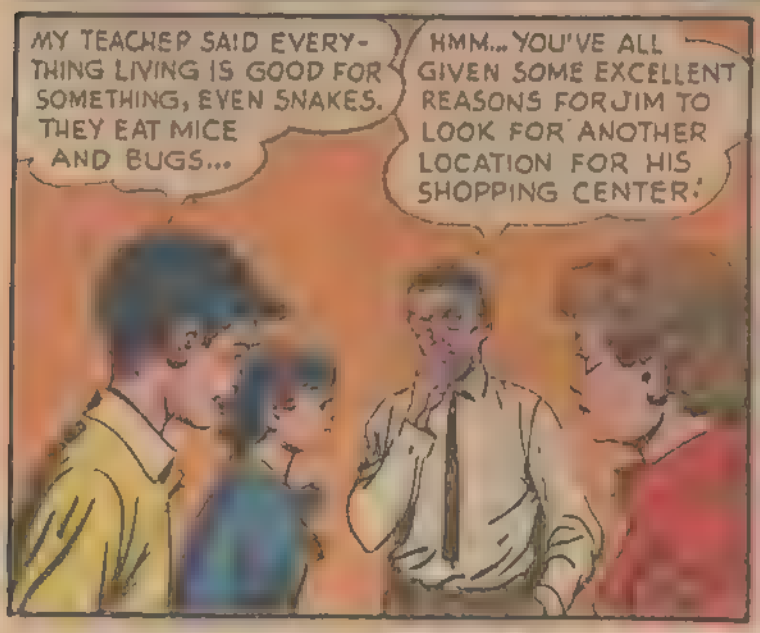

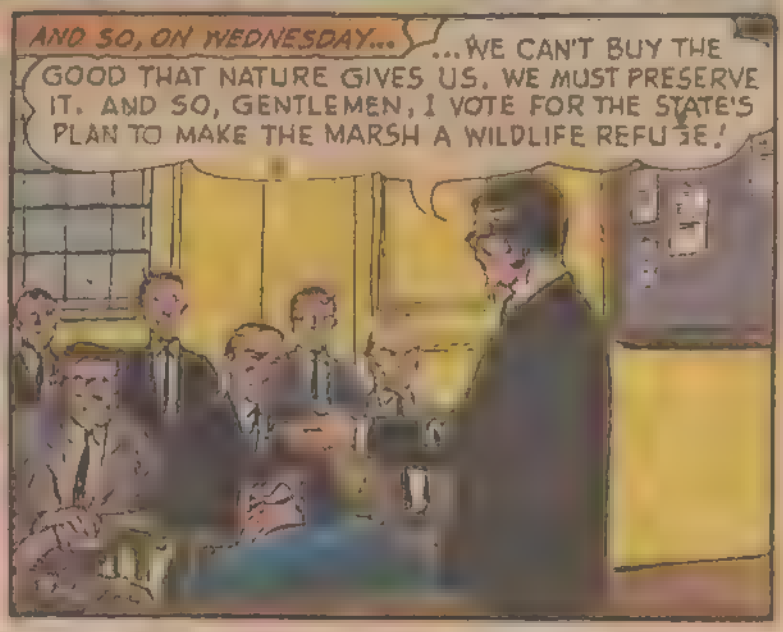

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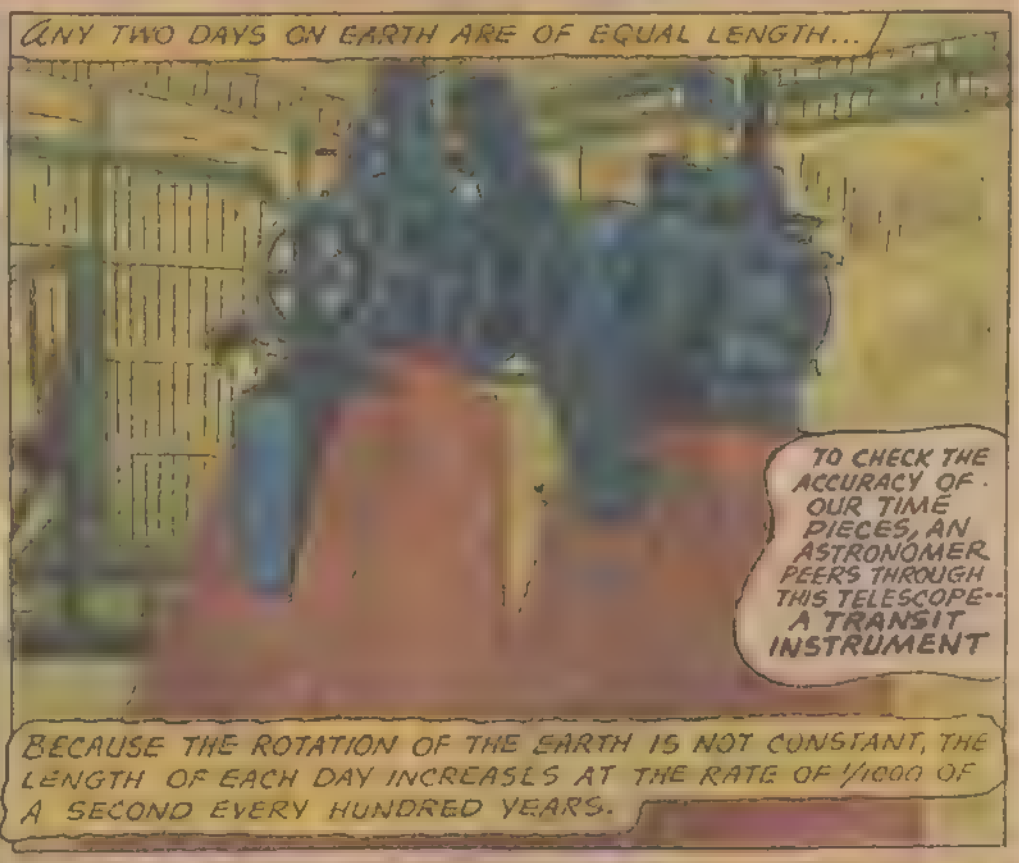
Science says you're wrong IF YOU BELIEVE THAT --



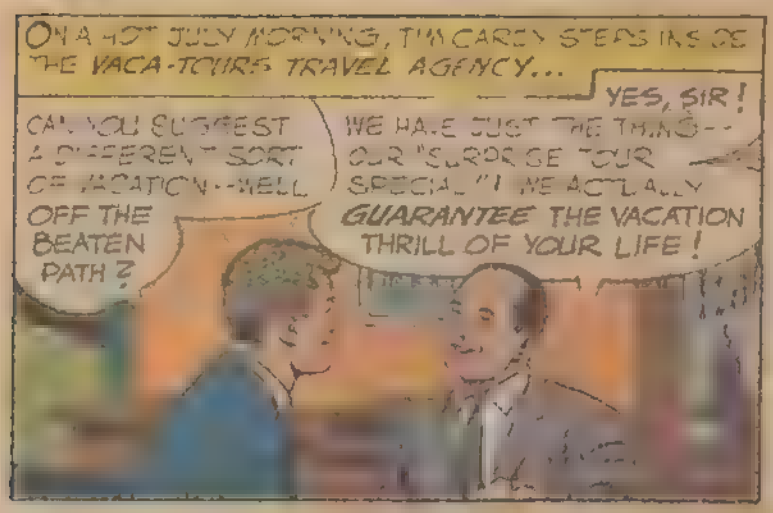
The Interplanetary tourists!

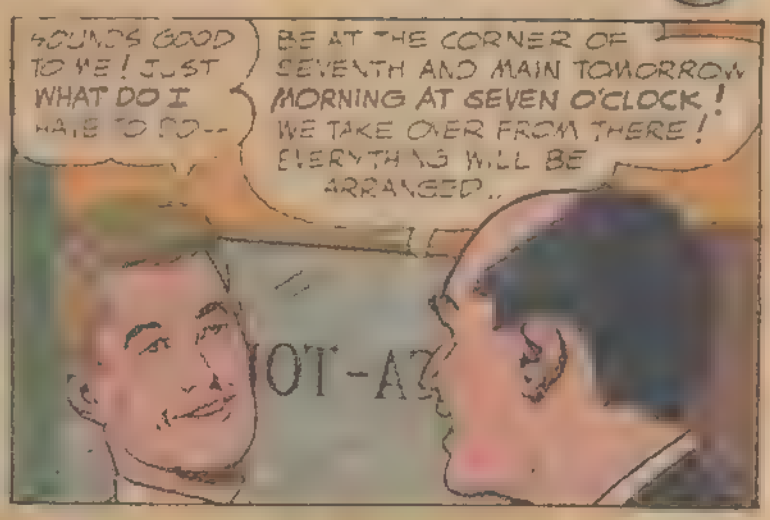
I NEVER THOUGHT I'D BE SPENDING MY 1961 VACATION ON A PLANET TRILLIONS OF MILES FROM EARTH!

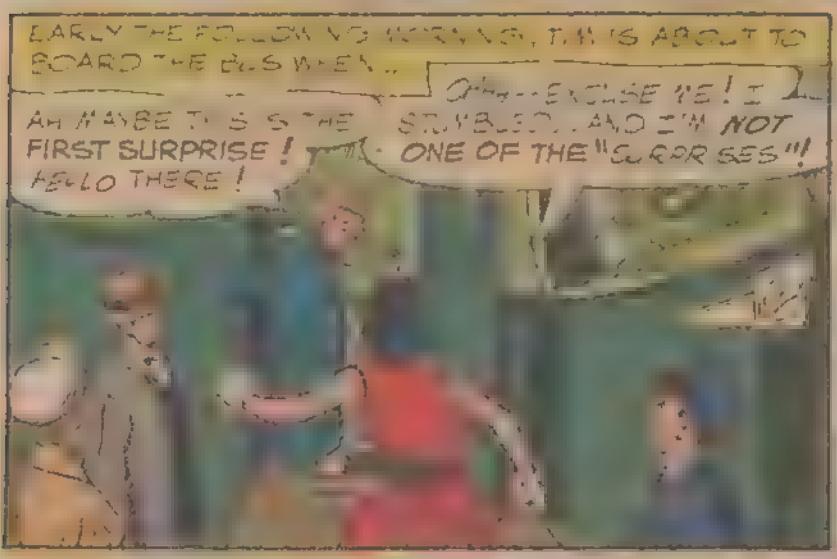
NEITHER DID I! THE ONLY THING BOTHERING ME ABOUT ALL THIS... HOW DO WE GET BACK TO EARTH?

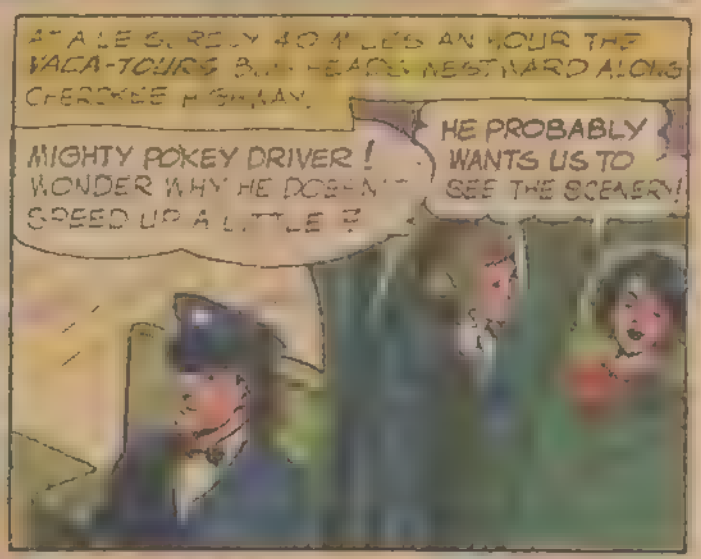
ARE YOU TIRED OF THE SAME OLD GRIND? DO YOU LONG TO GO SOMEWHERE OUT OF THIS WORLD? TO SEE FACES COMPLETELY DIFFERENT FROM THE FACES YOU'VE BEEN SEEING ALL YOUR LIFE? TO DO THINGS NOBODY HAS EVER DONE BEFORE... ON EARTH?

IF YOU FEEL THIS WAY, THEN COME ALONG ON AS STRANGE A VACATION TRIP AS ANYONE "OFF" EARTH HAS EVER SPENT!


ON A HOT JULY MORNING, TIM CAREY STEPS INSIDE THE VACA-TOURS TRAVEL AGENCY...
YES, SIR!
CAN YOU SUGGEST A DIFFERENT SORT OF VACATION--WELL OFF THE BEATEN PATH?
WE HAVE JUST THE THING--OUR "SURPRISE TOUR SPECIAL"! WE ACTUALLY GUARANTEE THE VACATION THRILL OF YOUR LIFE!


SOUNDS GOOD TO ME! JUST WHAT DO I HAVE TO DO--
BE AT THE CORNER OF SEVENTH AND MAIN TOMORROW MORNING AT SEVEN O'CLOCK! WE TAKE OVER FROM THERE! EVERYTHING WILL BE ARRANGED..


EARLY THE FOLLOWING MORNING, TIM IS ABOUT TO BOARD THE BUS WHEN..
OHH--EXCUSE ME! I STUMBLED..AND I'M NOT ONE OF THE "SURPRISES"!
AH MAYBE THIS IS THE FIRST SURPRISE! HELLO THERE!


AT A LEISURELY 40 MILES AN HOUR THE VACA-TOURS BUS HEADS WESTWARD ALONG CHEROKEE HIGHWAY.
MIGHTY POKEY DRIVER! WONDER WHY HE DOESN'T SPEED UP A LITTLE?
HE PROBABLY WANTS US TO SEE THE SCENERY!

TOWARD SUNDOWN, THE VACATIONERS STOP AT A MOTEL..
VACA-TOURS
HAVE A GOOD DINNER, FOLKS--THEN A GOOD NIGHT'S REST! THE SURPRISES BEGIN FIRST THING TOMORROW MORNING!
THIS IS EXCITING! I WONDER WHAT THE FIRST SURPRISE WILL BE?

NEXT MORNING AS HE RISES, TIM RAISES THE BLINDS OF HIS MOTEL ROOM AND SEES..
WHAT ON EARTH--?! TALK ABOUT SURPRISES!

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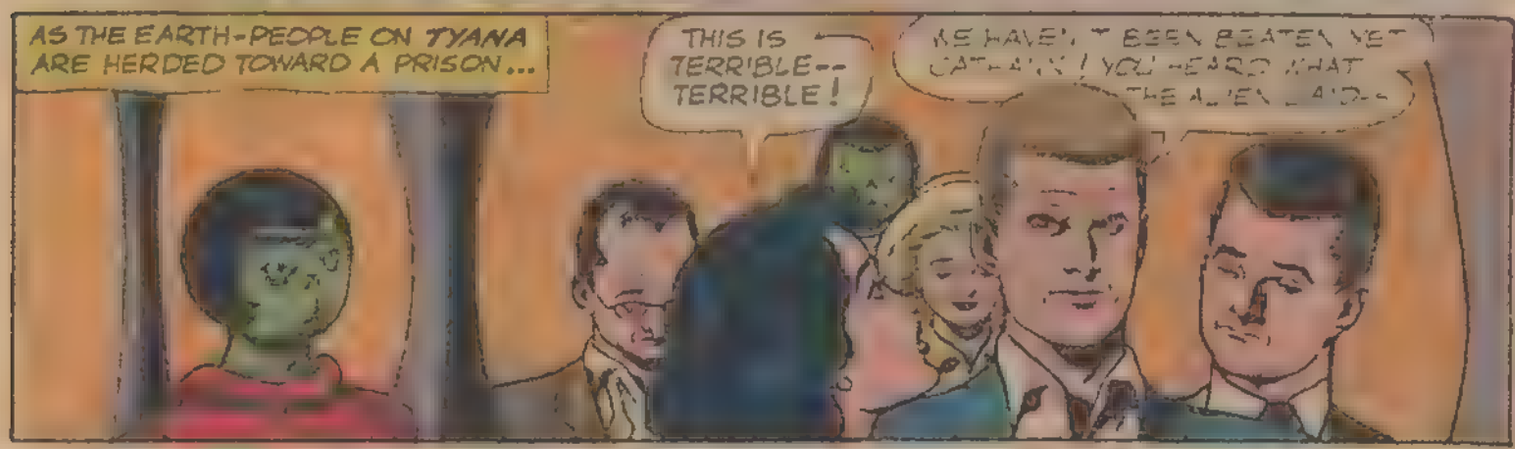
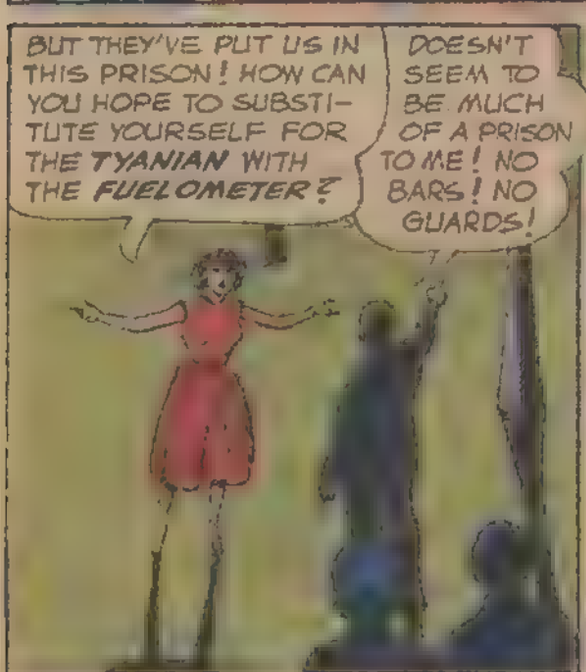
SINCE YOU SHALL NEVER RETURN TO EARTH, YOU'LL SPEND THE REST OF YOUR DAYS HERE AS--THE LAST OF THE EARTH-MEN--EXAMPLES OF THE WAY EARTH PEOPLE USED TO LOOK...
LAST OF THE EARTH-MEN? THAT SOUNDS AS IF EVERYBODY ELSE ON EARTH WERE GOING TO BE DESTROYED!
IT'S TIME WE EXPLAINED WHY YOU WERE BROUGHT HERE! FOR MANY YEARS OUR RACE ON TYANA HAS BEEN TRAVELING THROUGHOUT SPACE! HOWEVER, SINCE OUR BODIES CANNOT STAND SPEEDS IN EXCESS OF 40 MILES AN HOUR, WE HAVE BEEN FORCED TO TELEPORT OURSELVES ACROSS SPACE!
"TO SET UP TELEPORT STATIONS ON THE WORLDS WE WANT TO VISIT WE CREATED ANDROIDS--HUMAN-LIKE ROBOTS--AND SEND THEM BY SPACESHIP TO THESE DISTANT PLANETS..."
AS SOON AS THE ANDROIDS SET UP TELEPORT STATIONS ON PLANET #3 OF THE STAR-SUN SOL, WE SHALL BE ABLE TO BE TELEPORTED THERE!
"HOWEVER, BEFORE WE CAN ACTUALLY TELEPORT OURSELVES BETWEEN WORLDS, AN EARTH-BEING MUST BE TELEPORTED TO TYANA IN PLACE OF OURSELVES! THAT IS WHY YOU WERE BROUGHT HERE..."
AS SOON AS THIS ONE WHO CALLS HIMSELF TIM CAREY IS TELEPORTED TO TYANA, ONE OF THE TYANIANS--WEARING A PLASTIC MASK OF AN EARTH-FACE-WILL BE TELEPORTED IN HIS PLACE!
"THE ENTIRE MOTEL IS OUR TELEPORT MACHINE ON EARTH--BUT THAT IS ONLY A PART OF OUR PLAN FOR THE CONQUEST OF YOUR PLANET...
THIS RADIATION MACHINE WILL EMIT RAYS DEADLY TO ALL FORMS OF INTELLIGENT EARTH LIFE! AS SOON AS THE FUELOMETER IS ADDED, IT WILL BEGIN TO FUNCTION...

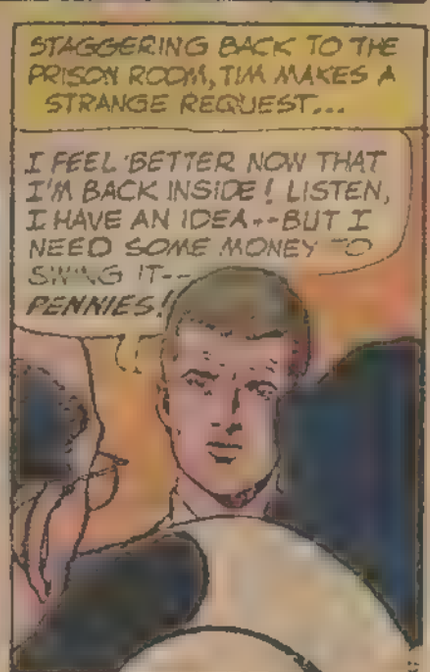
"A TYANIAN CARRYING THE FUELOMETER WILL BE TELEPORTED TO EARTH AND TEN HOURS AFTER THE RADIATION MACHINE IS TURNED ON-- YOUR PLANET WILL BECOME A GRAVEYARD FOR YOUR PEOPLE..."
EVERYTHING THAT BELONGED TO THE HUMAN RACE NOW BELONGS TO US!


AS THE EARTH-PEOPLE ON TYANA ARE HERDED TOWARD A PRISON...
THIS IS TERRIBLE-- TERRIBLE!

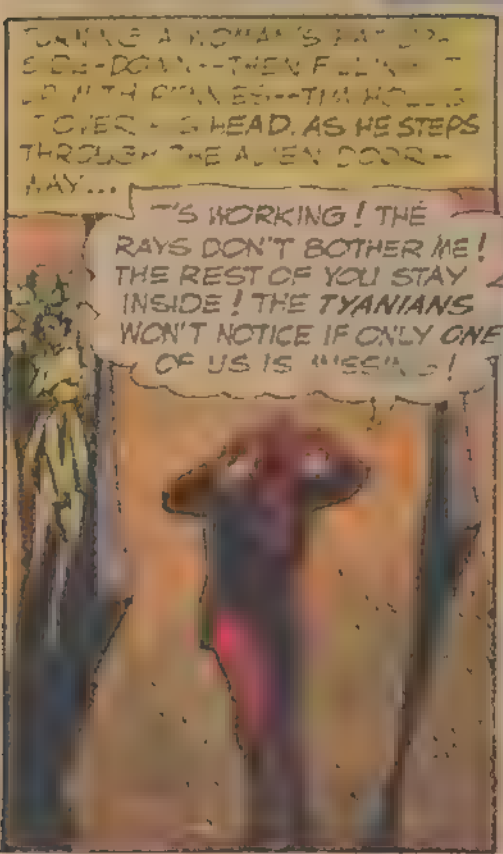
WHAT DO YOU MEAN?
HE TOLD US THAT A TYANIAN IS GOING TO BE TELEPORTED TO EARTH WITH THE FUELOMETER! IF I WERE TO TAKE HIS PLACE--


BUT THEY'VE PUT US IN THIS PRISON! HOW CAN YOU HOPE TO SUBSTITUTE YOURSELF FOR THE TYANIAN WITH THE FUELOMETER?
DOESN'T SEEM TO BE MUCH OF A PRISON TO ME! NO BARS! NO GUARDS!

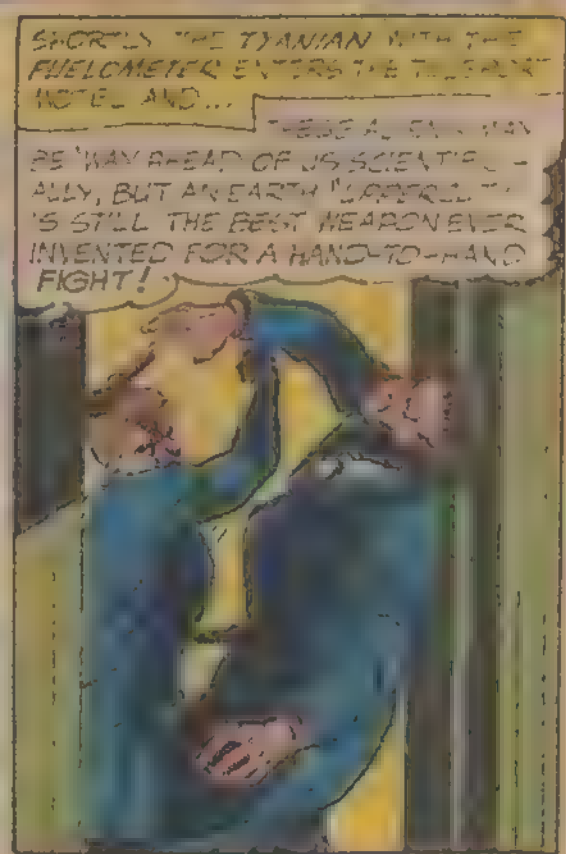
BUT--AS SOON AS HE STEPS THROUGH THE UNGUARDED DOORWAY, TIM CAREY REELS DIZZILY...
OHHHH! I FEEL GROGGY!

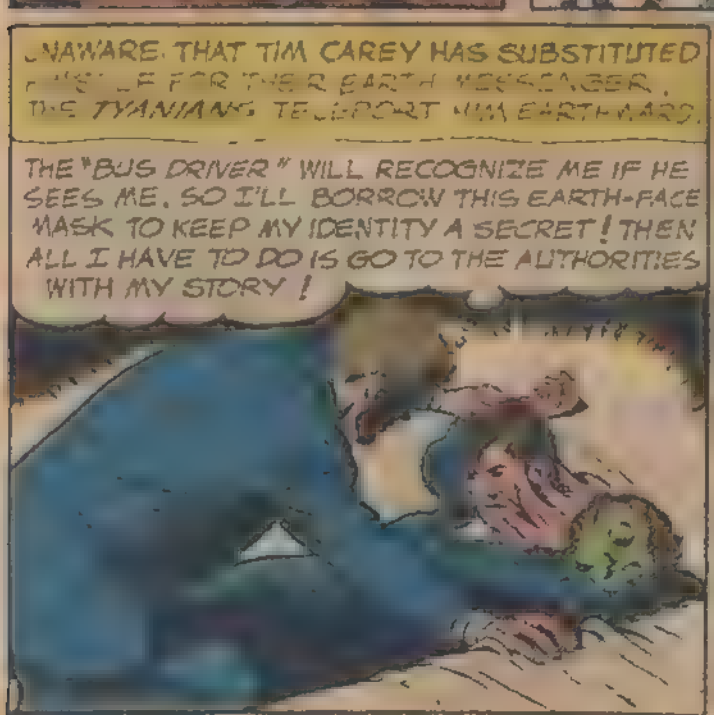

STAGGERING BACK TO THE PRISON ROOM, TIM MAKES A STRANGE REQUEST...
I FEEL BETTER NOW THAT I'M BACK INSIDE! LISTEN, I HAVE AN IDEA--BUT I NEED SOME MONEY TO SWING IT-- PENNIES!

THE DOORWAY EMITS A RAY THAT CAUSES US TO SUFFER A DEEP SPELL! BUT NO RAY CAN PENETRATE LEAD--AND PENNIES HAVE SOME LEAD* IN THEM! SO DIG DEEP, GUYS--AND LET'S MAKE YOUR PENNIES...
*Editor's Note: THOUGH PENNIES ARE MADE OF COPPER AND ZINC, THE ZINC IS IMPURE TO THE EXTENT THAT IT CONTAINS A BIT OF LEAD AS WELL AS COBALT AND BISMUTH.


TURNING A WOMAN'S HAT DOWN SLOW--DOWN--THEN FALLING OUT OF WITH A CRASH--TIM HOLDS TO OVER HIS HEAD, AS HE STEPS THROUGH THE ALIEN DOOR-WAY...
IT'S WORKING! THE RAYS DON'T BOTHER ME! THE REST OF YOU STAY INSIDE! THE TYANIANS WON'T NOTICE IF ONLY ONE OF US IS MISSING!

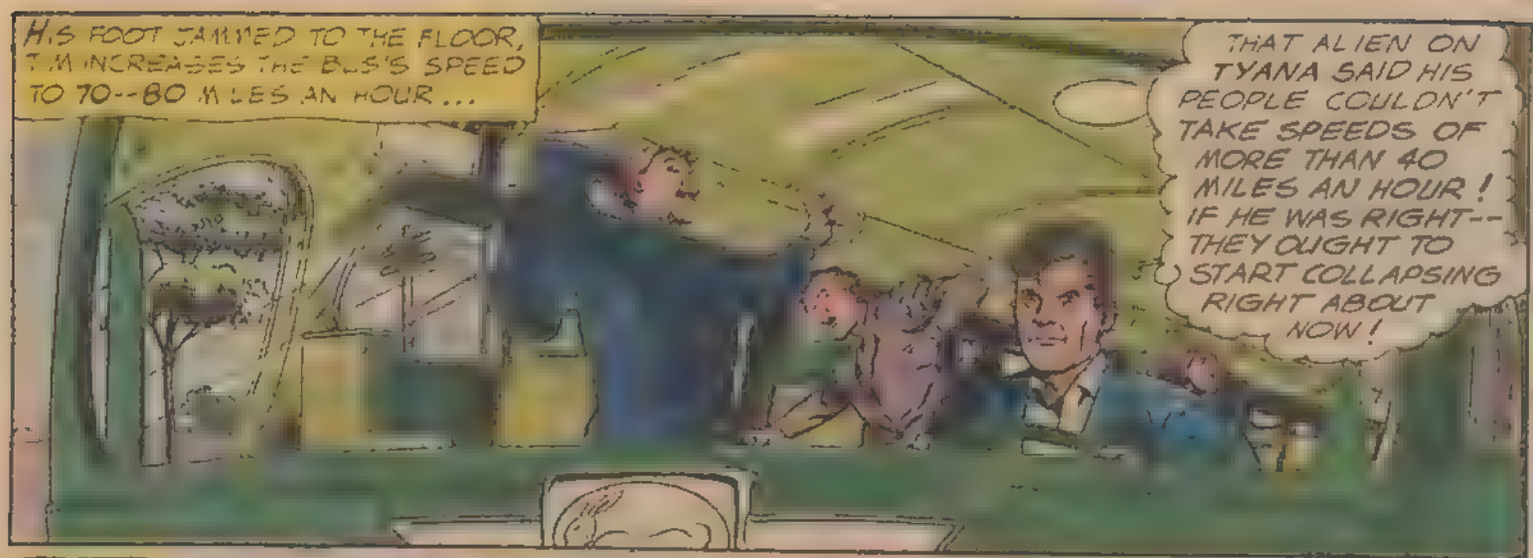
AT A FAST RUN, TIM HEADS FOR THE TELEPORT STATION...
NOBODY'S EXPECTING ME TO MAKE A BREAK FOR IT! THE ALIENS WON'T BE ON GUARD! ALL I NEED DO IS STAY OUT OF SIGHT!
NOT-ADA

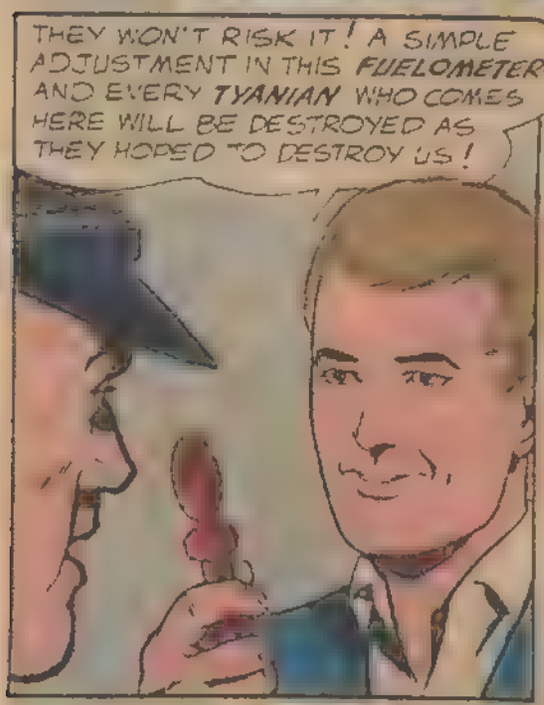

SHORTLY THE TYANIAN WITH THE FUELOMETER ENTERS THE TELEPORT HOTEL AND...
THESE ALIENS MAY BE WAY AHEAD OF US SCIENTIFICALLY, BUT AN EARTH "SUPERCELL" IS STILL THE BEST WEAPON EVER INVENTED FOR A HAND-TO-HAND FIGHT!

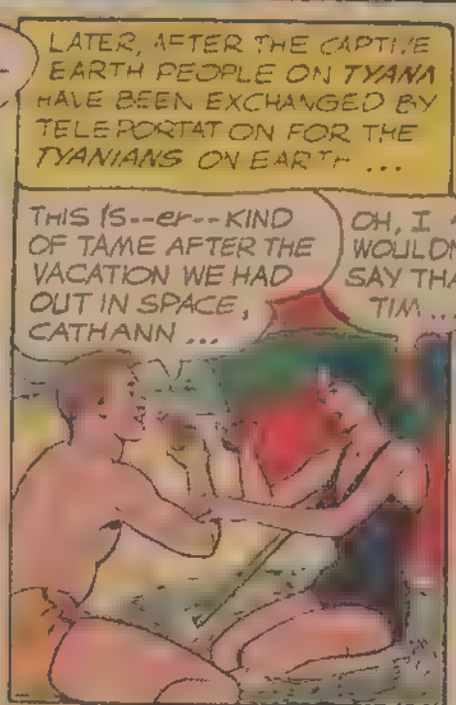

UNAWARE THAT TIM CAREY HAS SUBSTITUTED HIMSELF FOR THEIR EARTH MESSENGER, THE TYANIANS TELEPORT HIM EARTHWARD.
THE "BUS DRIVER" WILL RECOGNIZE ME IF HE SEES ME. SO I'LL BORROW THIS EARTH-FACE MASK TO KEEP MY IDENTITY A SECRET! THEN ALL I HAVE TO DO IS GO TO THE AUTHORITIES WITH MY STORY!

BUT AS THE TELEPORTATION JOURNEY ENDS ABRUPTLY...
VANAR DRON! HURRY! EVERYTHING IS IN READINESS!
I'M TRAPPED! I CAN NEVER GET AWAY NOW! I'LL HAVE TO TURN THE FUELOMETER OVER TO THEM...

WE'LL GO STRAIGHT TO THE RADIATION MACHINE! INSIDE TEN HOURS EVERYONE ON EARTH BUT US WILL BE DEAD!
I'M OUTNUMBERED! I CAN'T POSSIBLY FIGHT THEM ALL! WHAT CAN I DO?
ACA-TOURS·MOT
INSIDE THE BUS, TIM SUDDENLY THRUSTS THE ALIEN BUS DRIVER FROM BEHIND THE STEERING WHEEL...
WHAT ARE YOU DOING, VANAR DRON? YOU DON'T KNOW HOW TO DRIVE AN EARTH VEHICLE!
THIS IS MY ONLY CHANCE!
WITH A SQUEAL OF TIRES, TIM GUNS THE BUS TO A LURCHING START...
I'M LOSING MY BALANCE--
I'M FALLING!
I'VE GOT TO TAKE A GAMBLE ON SOMETHING I REMEMBERED ONE OF THE ALIENS SAYING ON TYANA...
AS THE ANGRY TYANIANS REALIZE THEY HAVE BEEN TRICKED...
FULL SPEED AHEAD!
THAT CAN'T BE VANAR DRON! GET HIM!
AS TIM SUDDENLY ROUNDS A CORNER...
THAT KNOCKED 'EM DOWN AGAIN! I'M COMING ONTO A LONG STRAIGHTAWAY HERE, SO...







The BEST Comics are STILL 10¢

SPOTLIGHT ON SCIENCE

Dear Science Editor:

In its yearly journey around the sun, how fast does the earth travel, how much distance does it cover, and how long exactly does it take?

I.D., Albany, N. Y.

Dear I.D.:

The earth does not travel around the sun at a uniform velocity (the nearer the sun it is, the faster the movement, and vice versa)—however, its mean speed is about 18 miles a second (66,000 miles an hour). During the course of a year, the earth moves across 590,000,000 miles of space—taking 365 days, 6 hours, 9 minutes, and 9 1/2 seconds.—Editor)

• • •

Dear Science Editor:

After the roots of plants absorb water, how is the water carried up to the rest of the plant?

R.P., Milwaukee, Wis.

Dear R.P.:

The ground water absorbed into the plant roots is transported to the other parts of the plant through a complex system of water-conducting tissues which extend from the region of the root hairs, near the tips of the main root or each of its branches, through the length of the root and the stem into the leaves, where they constitute the veins. The structure of the cells which compose this conducting system varies in different kinds of plants, but they are all well adapted to their work, with their walls either abundantly pitted for better communication, or with the end walls greatly reduced, or lacking, so that continuous tubes extend for some distances in the tissues of the stem.

In a tree, the vessels carrying the water constitute a large part of the woody tissue. In herbaceous plants the conducting tissues are similarly located. In plants there is no pump like the animal heart to keep these fluids in circulation. The movement of water from the roots to the leaves is spoken of as the *ascent of sap*. The actual physics underlying this process is not clearly understood by present-day science, and is still debated. More than likely the water-rise is at least assisted by the evaporation of water from the leaves (*transpiration*). Considering some of our tallest trees—like the 300-foot high Sequoias of California—it is evident that a considerable force is necessary to push the water upward from the roots.—Editor)

• • •

Dear Science Editor:

What causes rocks to form at the bottom of the sea?

F.T., Trenton, N. J.

Dear F.T.:

The slow accumulation of shells of microscopic creatures and stream action are responsible for the thick rock-like deposits at the bottom of the sea. After the original bottom layers have been deposited, they become subjected to enormous pressure and heat—the result being to solidify the deposits into solid rock. Deposits of clay are made by shales; sandstone deposits are caused by sand; and limestones originate from animal shells. It has been estimated that the thickness of all the undersea deposits total more than a half-million feet.—Science Editor)

• • •

Dear Science Editor:

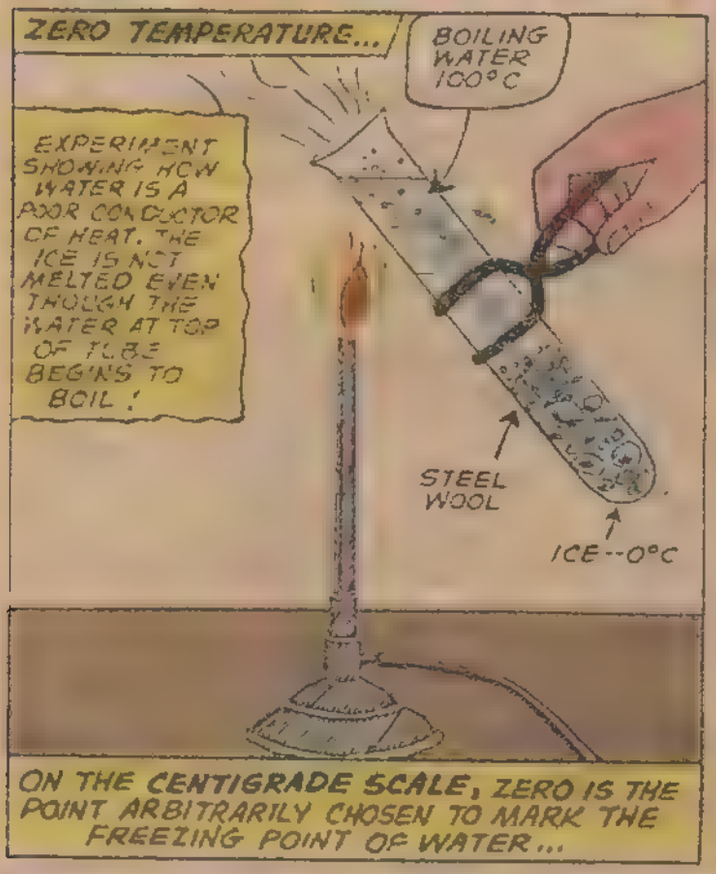
Why are raindrops spherical in shape?

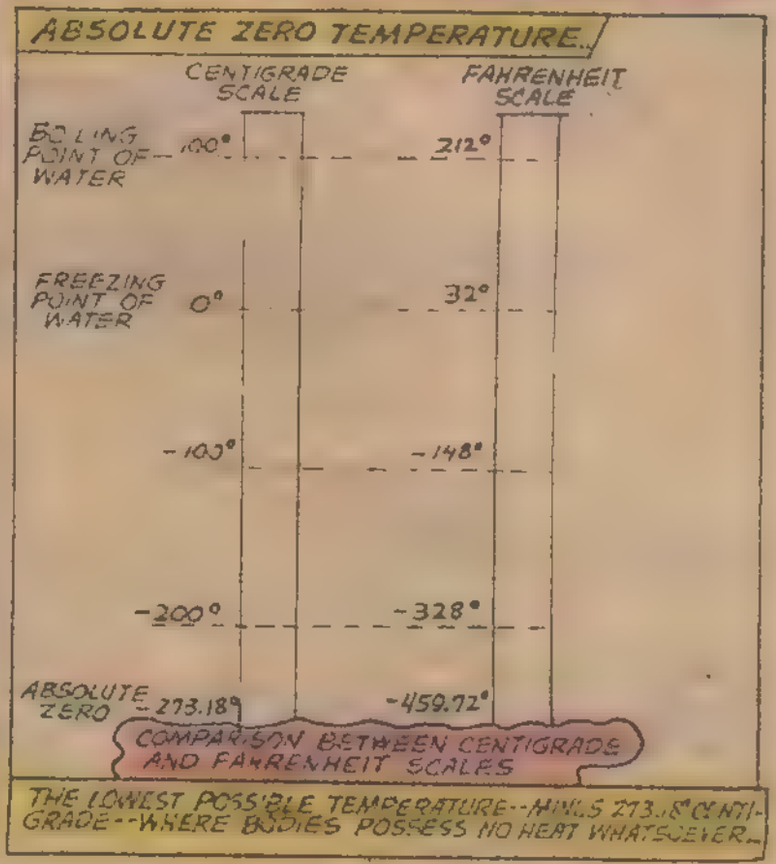
E.R., Tacoma, Wash.

Dear E.R.:

Any small quantity of water—such as a raindrop—assumes a spherical shape because the molecules at its surface are attracted by other nearby molecules, and the surface automatically takes the shape which has the least area possible under the conditions—in other words, that of a *sphere!*—Science Editor)

What's the Difference Between...





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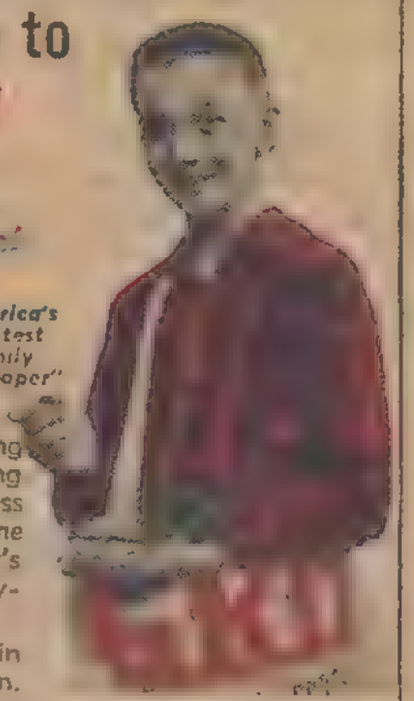

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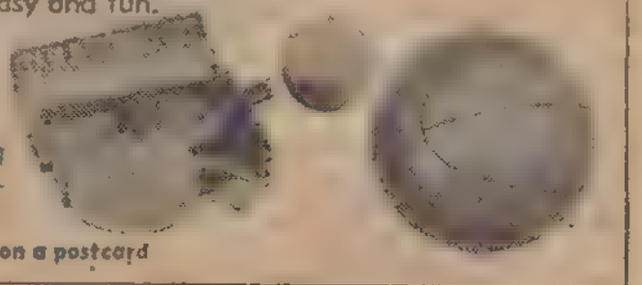

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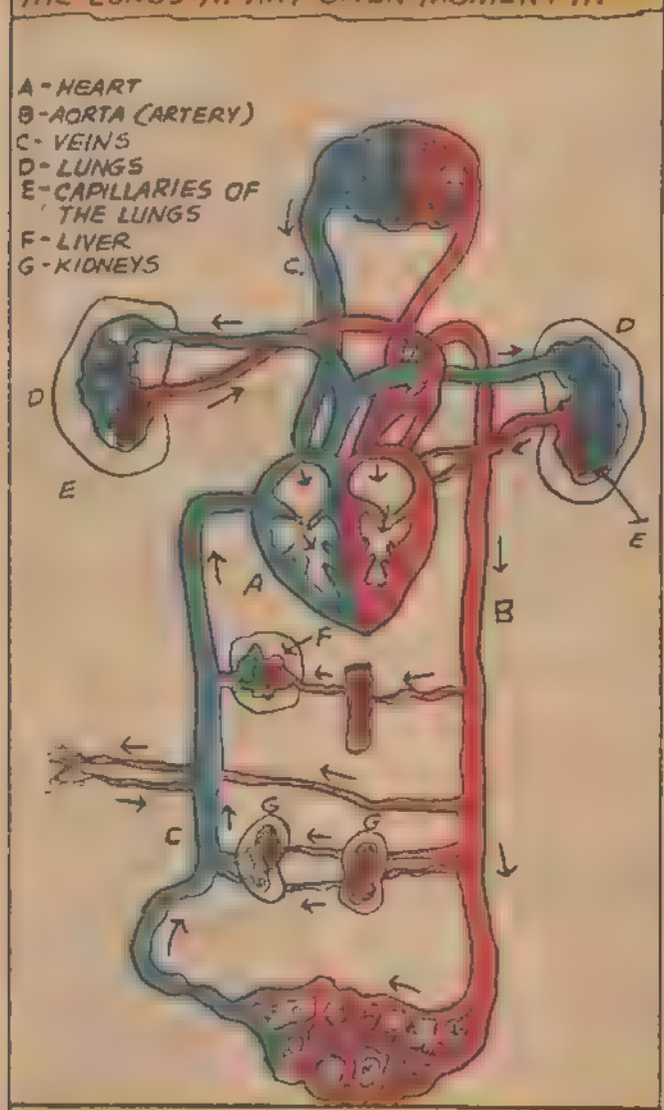
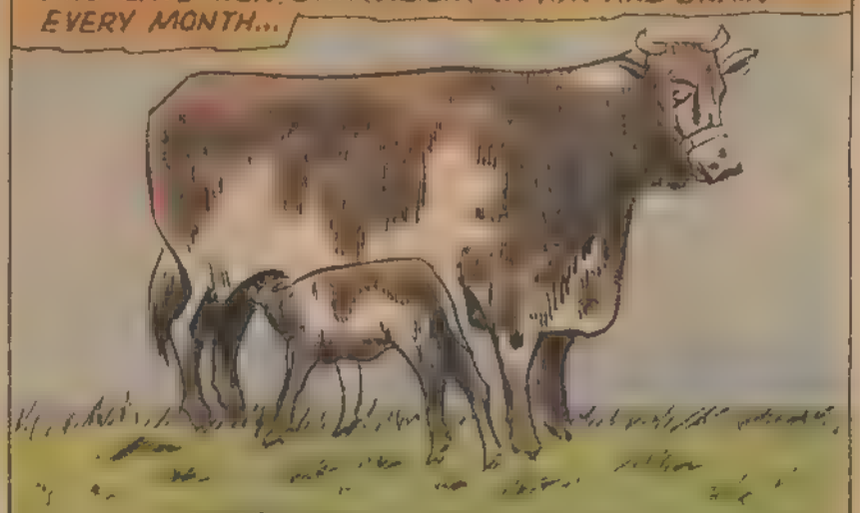
AMAZING RATIOS!

THERE ARE ABOUT 25 BILLION RED CELLS IN THE CIRCULATORY SYSTEM OF A HUMAN BEING--OF WHICH 25% IS IN THE LUNGS AT ANY GIVEN MOMENT...



PATH OF BLOOD IN HUMAN BEING

THE AVERAGE MILK COW WEIGHS ABOUT 1300 POUNDS AND EATS HER OWN WEIGHT IN HAY AND GRAIN EVERY MONTH...

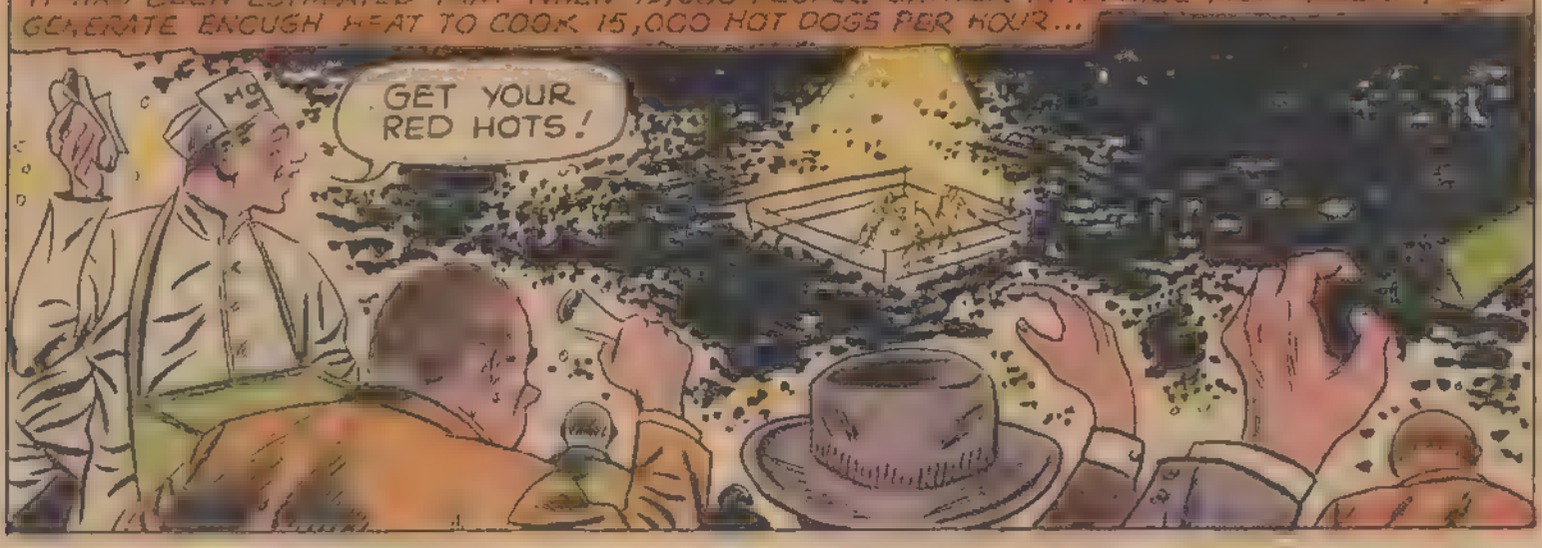


SHORTHORN COW and CALF

THERE ARE SO MANY MINERALS IN THE DEAD SEA--THE LOWEST LAKE IN THE WORLD--THAT ITS WATER IS FIVE TIMES AS "SOLID" AS OCEAN WATER...

THE EXTRAORDINARY BUOYANCY OF THE WATER IS DUE TO ITS LARGE SALT CONTENT--5 TIMES THAT OF OCEAN WATER

IT HAS BEEN ESTIMATED THAT WHEN 12,000 PEOPLE GATHER IN A PRIZE FIGHT ARENA, THEY GENERATE ENOUGH HEAT TO COOK 15,000 HOT DOGS PER HOUR...



The Atomic Knights

GARDNER GRAYLE: LEADER OF THE ATOMIC KNIGHTS

DOUGLAS HERALD: SCHOOL-TEACHER AND GARDNER'S FIRM FRIEND

MARENE: HERALD'S SISTER

BRYNDON: ONE OF THE LAST SCIENTISTS LEFT ALIVE ON EARTH

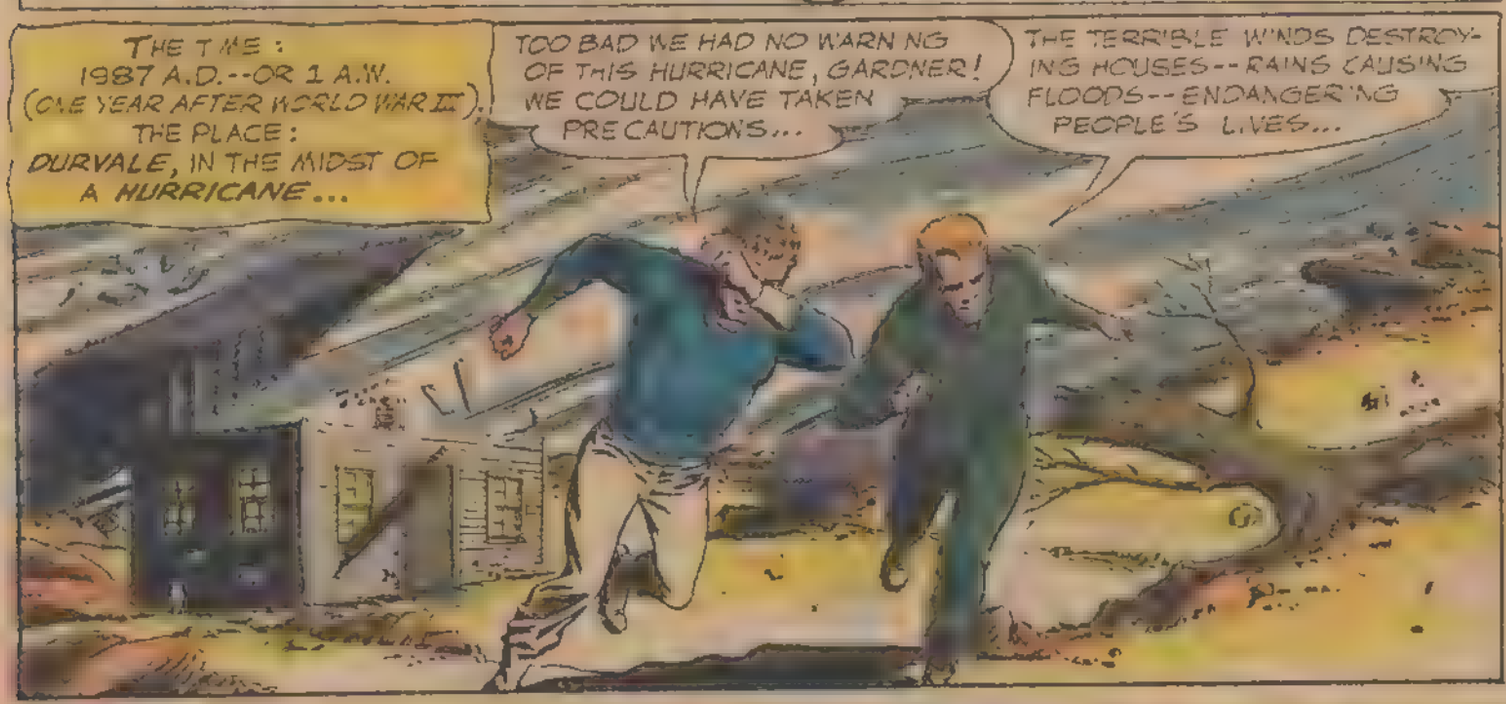
WAYNE AND HOLLIS HOBARD: BROTHERS, EX-SOLDERS, AND LOYAL ATOMIC KNIGHTS

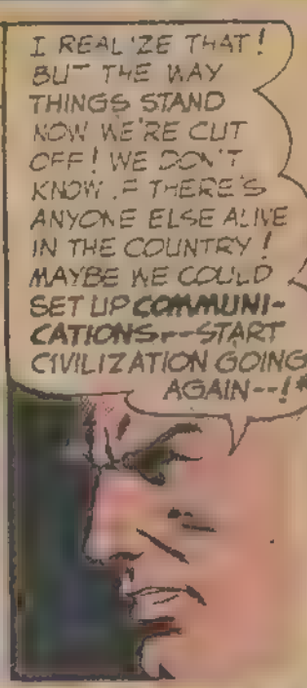
THERE ARE FOODPACKS IN THIS CANYON, KNIGHTS--AND TO GET THEM FOR THE STARVING HUMANS HERE--WE'VE GOT TO FIGHT OUR WAY PAST THOSE FANTASTIC CREATURES!

IT WAS GARDNER GRAYLE'S PLAN TO JOURNEY BY GLIDER ACROSS THE CONTINENT--FOR THE FIRST TIME SINCE THE END OF THE DEVASTATING RADIATION WAR OF 1986! BUT NOT EVEN THE KEEN-MINDED CAPTAIN OF THE ATOMIC KNIGHTS COULD HAVE IMAGINED THE FANTASTIC RECEPTION AWAITING HIM IN...

The LOST CITY OF LOS ANGELES!

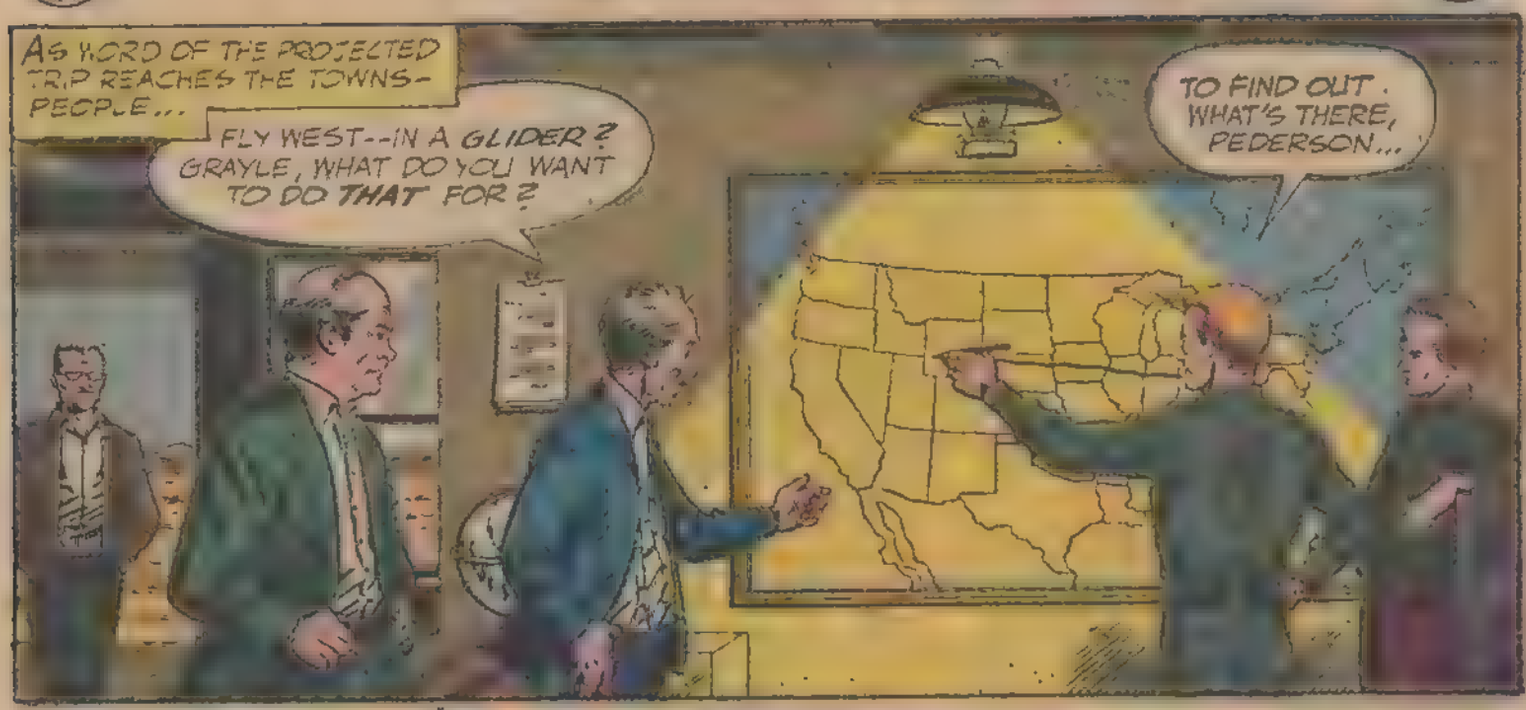
The BEST Comics are STILL 10¢





*EDITOR'S NOTE:

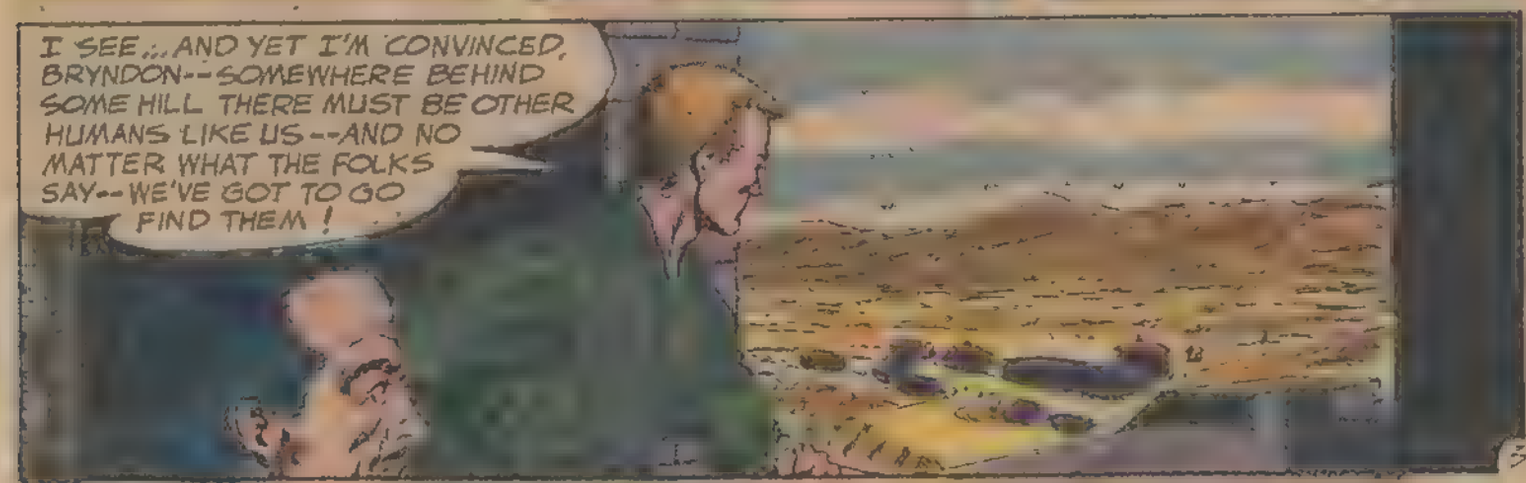
DURING THE EIGHTEEN DAYS OF ATOMIC WAR IN 1986, ALL PLANT AND ANIMAL LIFE WAS DESTROYED ON EARTH AND ONLY TINY ISOLATED BANDS OF HUMANS WERE ABLE TO SURVIVE, SUCH AS AT THE LITTLE SETTLEMENT OF DURVALE, HOME BASE OF THE ATOMIC KNIGHTS--A UNIQUE ORGANIZATION RESOLVED TO REPRESENT LAW AND ORDER... TO HELP RIGHT WRONG AND PREVENT EVIL DURING THIS CRITICAL TIME OF EARTH'S HISTORY!


AS WORD OF THE PROJECTED TRIP REACHES THE TOWNSPEOPLE...
FLY WEST--IN A GLIDER? GRAYLE, WHAT DO YOU WANT TO DO THAT FOR?
TO FIND OUT. WHAT'S THERE, PEDERSON...

BUT WHO CARES WHAT'S THERE?
IS IT WORTH RISKING YOUR LIVES FOR?
WE'RE TAKING EVERY PRECAUTION WE CAN...

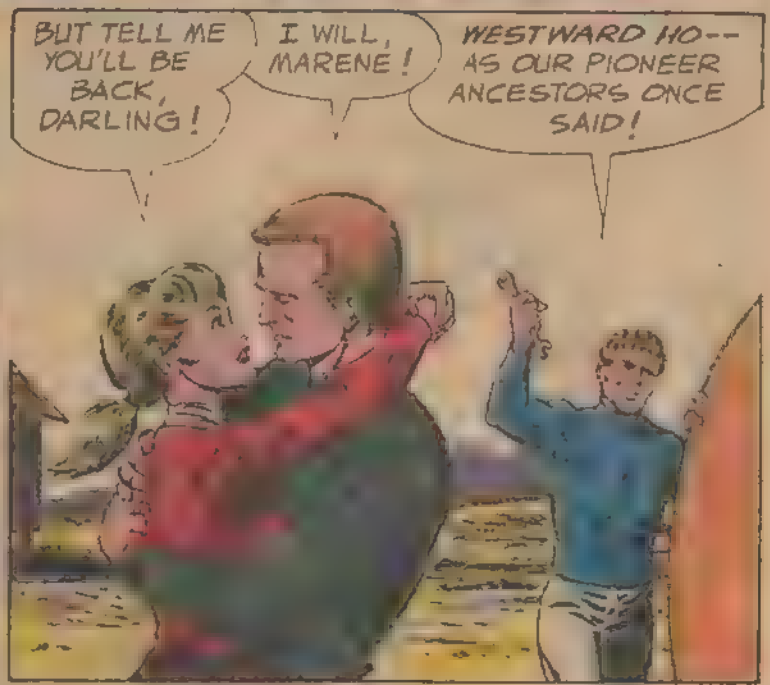
BUT SOMEONE'S GOT TO START PUTTING THE PIECES TOGETHER OF WHAT USED TO BE OUR AMERICAN WAY OF LIFE--AND IT MIGHT AS WELL BE US!
BRAVO, GARDNER! THAT'S TELLING 'EM!

STILL LATER, IN THE WORKSHOP OF BRYNDON, THE SCIENTIST AMONG THE ATOMIC KNIGHTS..
GOT THAT RADIO RECEIVER OF YOURS WORKING YET, BRYNDON?
I THINK IT'S WORKING, GARDNER! TROUBLE IS THERE DOESN'T SEEM TO BE ANY TRANSMISSION FOR IT TO RECEIVE!


I SEE... AND YET I'M CONVINCED, BRYNDON--SOMEWHERE BEHIND SOME HILL THERE MUST BE OTHER HUMANS LIKE US--AND NO MATTER WHAT THE FOLKS SAY--WE'VE GOT TO GO FIND THEM!

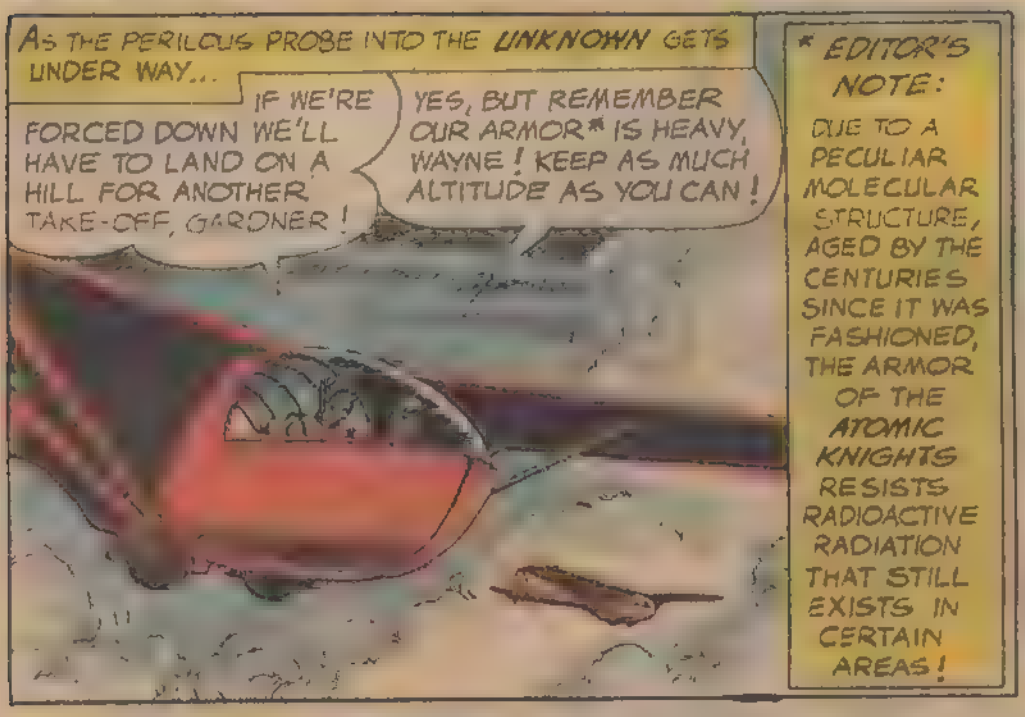
LATER, ON "TAKE-OFF DAY"...
THE HOBARD BOYS SAID THEY WERE GLIDER CHAMPIONS BEFORE THE WAR, MARENE--AND IT LOOKS NOW LIKE THEY WEREN'T BOASTING...
YOU'RE GOING TO LEAVE ME AGAIN

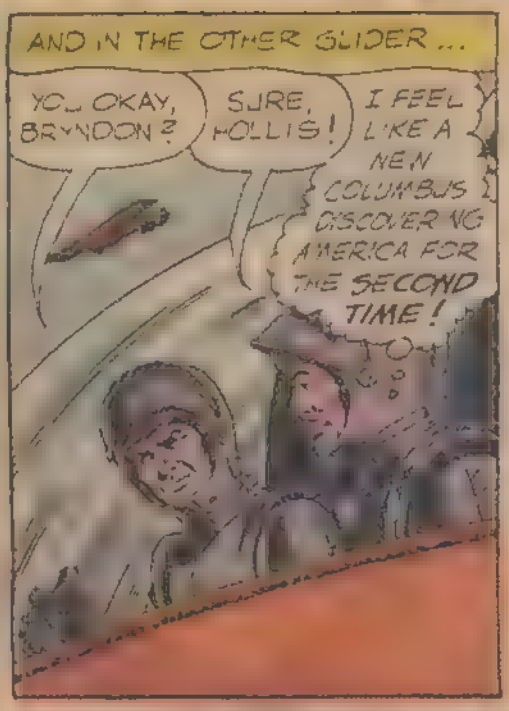
I HAVE TO, MARENE! YOU KNOW WE HAVE TO GO--AND THERE'S ONLY ROOM FOR FOUR IN THE TWO GLIDERS! YOUR BROTHER WILL STAY TOO, HE'S NEEDED HERE TO TEACH SCHOOL...


BUT TELL ME YOU'LL BE BACK, DARLING!
I WILL, MARENE!
WESTWARD HO--AS OUR PIONEER ANCESTORS ONCE SAID!

DEPARTURE HOUR ON TOP OF A HILL OVER-VIEWING DURVALE...
THIS IS THE EASIEST WAY FOR US TO GET AIRBORNE, GARDNER--SLIDING DOWN THIS HILL!
I'LL LEAVE THE DETAILS TO YOU, WAYNE--YOU'RE THE PILOT!

AS THE ROPE IS CUT...
NOW TO CATCH AN UP-BOOMING WARM-AIR CURRENT!


AS THE PERILOUS PROBE INTO THE UNKNOWN GETS UNDER WAY...
IF WE'RE FORCED DOWN WE'LL HAVE TO LAND ON A HILL FOR ANOTHER TAKE-OFF, GARDNER!
YES, BUT REMEMBER OUR ARMOR* IS HEAVY, WAYNE! KEEP AS MUCH ALTITUDE AS YOU CAN!
* EDITOR'S NOTE: DUE TO A PECULIAR MOLECULAR STRUCTURE, AGED BY THE CENTURIES SINCE IT WAS FASHIONED, THE ARMOR OF THE ATOMIC KNIGHTS RESISTS RADIOACTIVE RADIATION THAT STILL EXISTS IN CERTAIN AREAS!


AND IN THE OTHER GLIDER...
YOU OKAY, BRYNDON?
SURE, HOLLIS!
I FEEL LIKE A NEW COLUMBUS DISCOVERING AMERICA FOR THE SECOND TIME!

AND THE COUNTRY INDEED IS CHANGED..
NOTHING GROWS! BEFORE THE WAR THIS LAND WOULD HAVE BEEN ALIVE WITH GREEN AND GROWING THINGS!
NOW IT'S BLACK-- AND DEAD!

A GHOST TOWN! NOTHING ALIVE HERE...
WE'RE STILL FLYING WEST...

AS THE HOURS MELT INTO DAYS AND THE DAYS SUCCEED EACH OTHER UNCHANGING...
WE'VE BEEN FORCED DOWN DOZENS OF TIMES GARDNER, AND ALWAYS GOT BACK UP! BUT WE'VE SEEN NOTHING ALIVE! HOW LONG DO WE KEEP LOOKING?
I'D HATE TO TURN BACK

MY VOTE IS WE KEEP GOING-- ALL THE WAY TO THE PACIFIC COAST IF NECESSARY!
OKAY!
COUNT US IN, GARDNER!

THAT VERY AFTERNOON, A FORMIDABLE OBSTACLE...

GARDNER! I DON'T KNOW IF WE'RE GOING TO BE ABLE TO GO ANY FURTHER WEST! LOOK--

THE ROCKY MOUNTAINS--! THEY'VE BEEN TURNED INTO A LINE OF ROARING VOLCANOES!!

AS THE GLIDERS CIRCLE WHILE SEEKING A MEANS PAST THE FLAMING BARRICADE.

THIS NEW STRING OF VOLCANOES--UNLEASHED BY THE H-BOMBS--SEEMS TO GO ALL THE WAY ACROSS THE COUNTRY! I DON'T THINK WE CAN GO AROUND THEM...

OUR MISSION... A FAILURE...

NOT YET! I HAVE AN IDEA! IF YOU AND HOLLIS FOLLOW US, BRYNDON, I THINK WE CAN MAKE IT!

LEAD THE WAY!

HEAD STRAIGHT FOR THE VOLCANOES, WAYNE! THE HOT AIR RISING FROM THE CRATERS OUGHT TO GET US SAFELY OVER THEM--

--WE HOPE!

AS A DARING PLAN IS PUT INTO SUCCESSFUL EXECUTION...

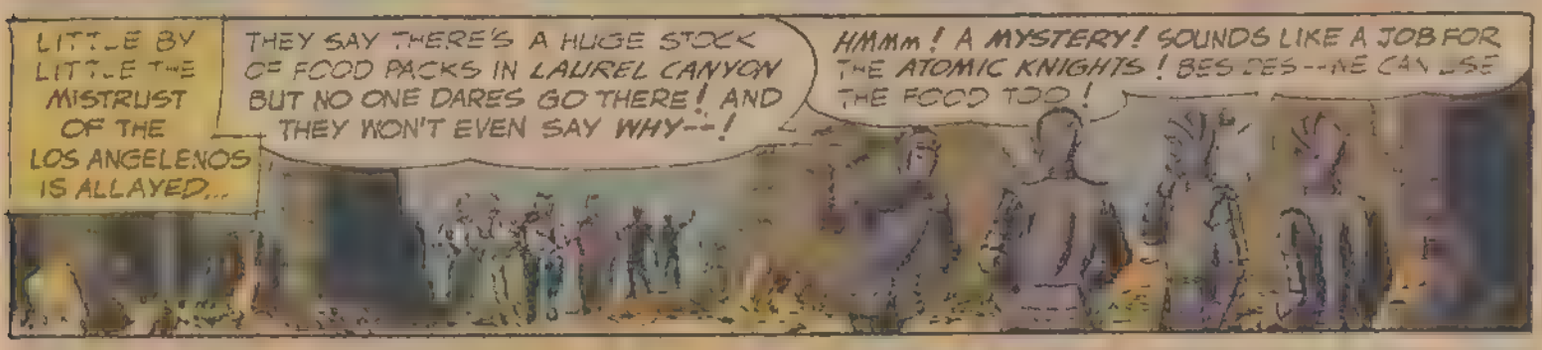
WE'RE THROUGH, GARDNER! WE MUST HAVE SHOT UP A THOUSAND FEET!

HOLLIS AND BRYNDON ARE MAKING IT, TOO!

AND ONE DAY NOT LONG AFTERWARD...
I SEE SOMETHING MOVING DOWN THERE! GO DOWN, WAYNE--DOWN!
IT'S LOS ANGELES! WE'RE AT THE PACIFIC, GARDNER!

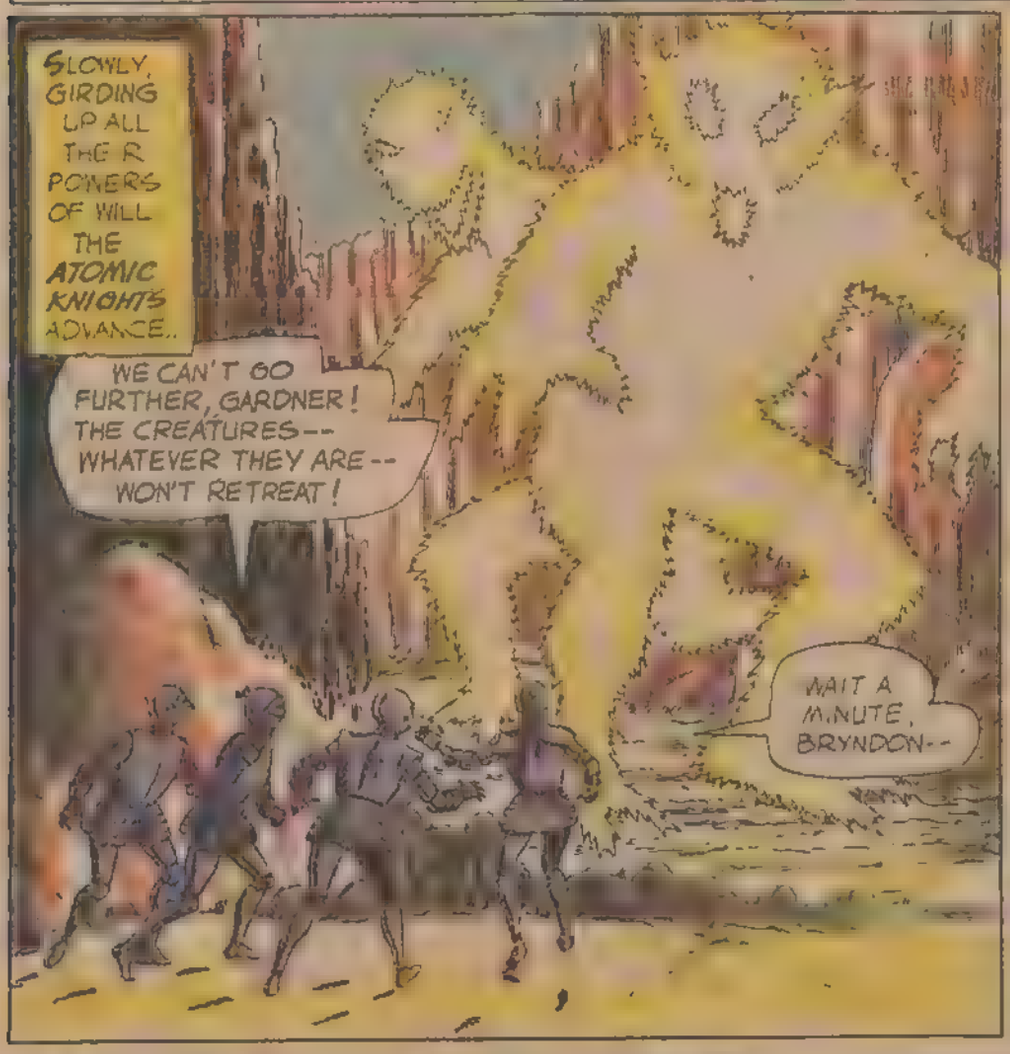
SOON, ON THE GROUND...
HUMANS! BUT THEY'RE TRYING TO DRIVE US OFF!
DON'T GO ANY CLOSER! I'LL HAIL THEM FROM HERE--FIND OUT WHAT'S WRONG..

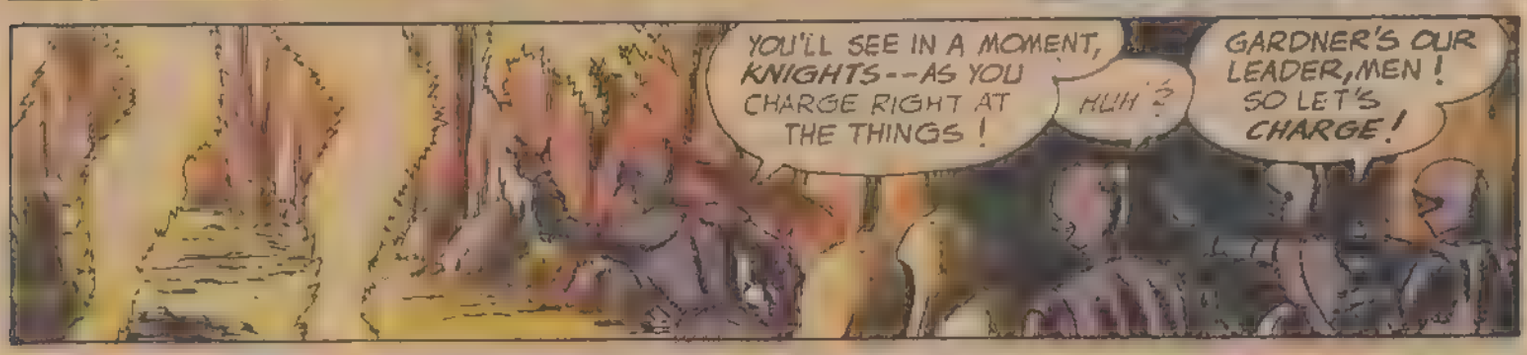
AS A PARLEY IS SET UP BETWEEN THE TWO GROUPS...
SO THAT'S IT! THIS IS AN ISOLATED BAND OF SURVIVORS--JUST AS WE HAVE AT DURVALE! BUT THEY'VE ABOUT RUN OUT OF FOOD! AND THEY FEAR HAVING OTHER MOUTHS TO FEED!
...STRANGERS MUST GO AWAY!

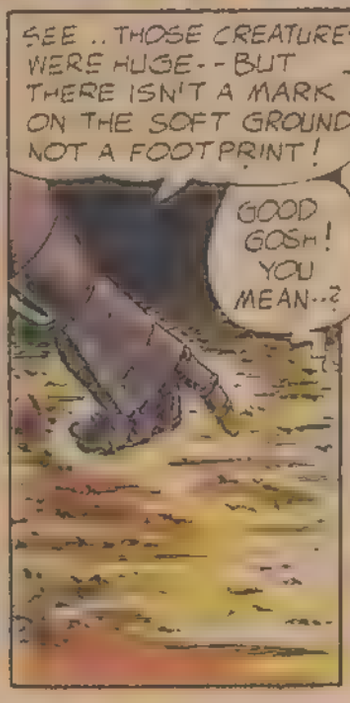

LITTLE BY LITTLE THE MISTRUST OF THE LOS ANGELENOS IS ALLAYED...
THEY SAY THERE'S A HUGE STOCK OF FOOD PACKS IN LAUREL CANYON BUT NO ONE DARES GO THERE! AND THEY WON'T EVEN SAY WHY--!
HMMm! A MYSTERY! SOUNDS LIKE A JOB FOR THE ATOMIC KNIGHTS! BESIDES--WE CAN USE THE FOOD TOO!

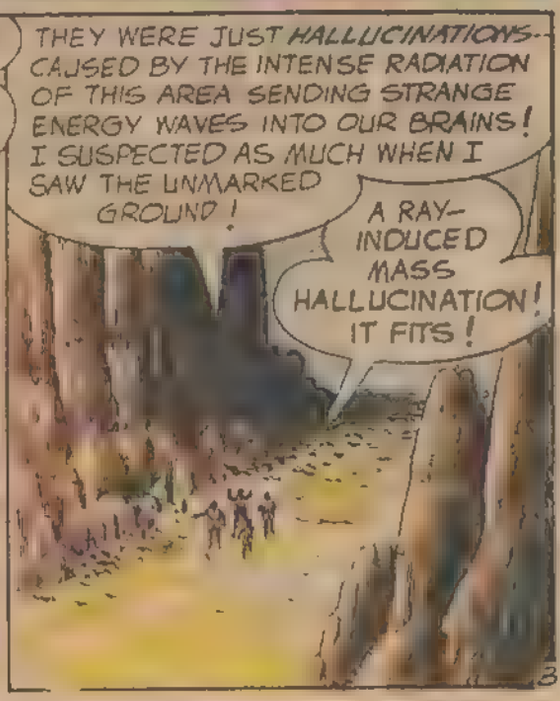
AN HOUR LATER ON THE OUTSKIRTS OF THE ALL BUT DEAD CITY, IN A HUGE AND CRAGGY CANYON ...
Whew! NO WONDER THAT BAND WOULDN'T TALK ABOUT THE TERRORS IN THIS PLACE! LOOK--
THE WILD RADIATION DURING THE WAR CAUSED SOME FANTASTIC FORMS OF LIFE TO SPRING UP, GARDNER--BUT THIS IS THE WEIRDEST!

The BEST Comics are STILL 10¢









AS THE SPECIAL ARMOR OF THE **KNIGHTS** ENABLES THEM TO REMOVE THE CACHED FOODPACKS OF THE CANYON WITHOUT FEAR OF THE RADIOACTIVE RADIATION...

AFTER THIS, GARDNER, THERE'S ANOTHER THING WE HAVE TO ATTEND TO!

I KNOW, BRYNDON... THE *RADIO*!

AND SOON, AS HONORED GUESTS NOW, THE **ATOMIC KNIGHTS** SET UP THEIR APPARATUS...

WILL WE BE ABLE TO MAKE IT, BRYNDON? IT'S A LONG WAY BACK TO **DURVALE**!

THEY'VE GOT A RECEIVER! IF WE CAN TRANS-MIT--

ACROSS THE COUNTRY ANOTHER GROUP HAS BEEN KEEPING A VIGIL...

TIME TO TURN IT ON AGAIN, DOUGLAS!

RIDICULOUS! YOU'LL HEAR NOTHING ON THAT BOX! AND THOSE THAT LEFT **DURVALE** ARE GONE FOREVER!

BUT A MOMENT LATER...

THIS IS BRYNDON, SPEAKING FROM LOS ANGELES! ALL'S WELL! HOW'S THE WEATHER IN DURVALE?

LOS ANGELES!

THEY'RE SAFE! GARDNER'S ALIVE!

The End

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WIN

A BEAUTIFUL NEW PHOTO RING!

with compartment for your favorite picture!

Ring is a real dazzler! Made of sturdy brass in a 16K gold electroplated finish. Size quickly adjustable to fit ANY finger!

WHO ARE THESE FAMOUS AMERICANS?

EASY AS ROLLING OFF A LOG!

Just CHECK COUPON Below Giving Name That Goes With Each Picture! If You Get All 4 Right, We'll Send You

PHOTO RING *Absolutely* FREE!

The NEWEST STYLE in Personal Jewelry! Wear your favorite picture in this beautiful, gleaming PHOTO RING! Think how your friends will envy you when they see it! And it's so EASY — and so much FUN — to win! Just check on coupon the correct names of the 4 FAMOUS AMERICANS shown in the pictures and mail to us. If you name all 4 correctly, we'll send you ABSOLUTELY FREE your OWN PERSONAL PHOTO RING with space for your favorite picture and PLASTIC PICTURE SHIELD to protect it. Also, we'll send you BIG, FREE CATALOG of wonderful PREMIUMS — Bikes, Wrist Watches, Guns, Dolls, and dozens of others — which you can easily get for your very own! Simply offer White CLOVERINE BRAND SALVE, easily sold to friends, relatives and neighbors, at 50¢ a package, and choose your PREMIUM or CASH COMMISSION. But right NOW, get your FREE PHOTO RING! Name correctly the 4 Famous Americans shown at right and RUSH COUPON TO US TODAY!

ACT NOW

BE THE FIRST

WE ARE RELIABLE!

BE THE FIRST!

HURRY! HURRY!

WIN A PHOTO RING! ABSOLUTELY FREE!

Just name correctly the 4 Famous Americans in the pictures above. Check names on coupon — fill in rest of coupon, mail to us at once.

IT'S EASY TO WIN! ACT RIGHT AWAY!

WILSON CHEMICAL CO.
Dept. 13-115 Tyrone, Pa.

MAIL THIS COUPON TODAY WIN BEAUTIFUL NEW PHOTO RING!

WILSON CHEMICAL CO., DEPT. 13-115 TYRONE, PA.

Famous Americans shown in pictures are: (check 4 only)

☐ Benjamin Franklin ☐ Daniel Boone
☐ Betsy Ross ☐ Molly Pitcher
☐ Paul Revere ☐ Thomas Jefferson

If I am a winner, rush my GENUINE 16K GOLD FINISH PHOTO RING and 14 packages of White CLOVERINE BRAND SALVE to sell at 50c a package. I will remit amount asked within 30 days, select a PREMIUM or keep CASH COMMISSION as explained under Premium in Catalog sent with order, postage paid to start.

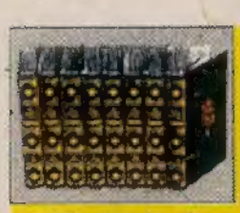
Name_____ Age_____

Street_____ RD_____ Box_____

Town_____ Zone_____ State_____

PRINT LAST NAME HERE

Paste coupon on postcard or mail in envelope today!


8-Vol. Encyclopedia

Movie Projector

Complete Fishing Outfit

Pool Table Set

Big-3 Hunting Set

Croquet Set

Berwin Typewriter

Mark XII Flash Camera

Wrist Watches

4 Daisy Air Rifles

Girls Travel Case

Pup Tent

Major League Glove

Sleeping Bag

Full String Guitar

Complete Archery Set

Pocket Radio

Chemcraft Lab.

3-Speed Bicycle

Basketball & Goal

MAKE MONEY

GET PRIZES

with Fast Selling American Seeds

Take your choice of these wonderful prizes. They can be yours—quickly, easily. Many prizes shown here and many more in our Big Prize Book are given WITHOUT COST for selling just one 48-pack order of American Vegetable and Flower Seeds at 15c a pack. Some of the larger prizes require more sales or extra money as explained in the Big Prize Book.

Send NO MONEY, We Trust You

Everybody wants American Seeds. They're fresh and ready to grow. You'll sell them quickly to family, friends and neighbors. Many boys and girls sell their packs in one day. You can too—and get your prize at once. Or, if you want money instead of a prize, keep $2.40 for every 48-pack order you sell. Mail coupon today for your first order of American Seeds and Big Prize Book—give the other coupon to a friend.

AMERICAN SEED CO.
Dept. 102
Lancaster, Pa.
OUR 43rd YEAR

MAIL ONE COUPON TODAY
Give the Other to a Friend

AMERICAN SEED CO., Dept. 102F, Lancaster, Pa.

Please send me your Big Prize Book and one order of 48 packs of American Seeds. I'll sell them at 15c a pack, send you the money and choose my prize. Send seeds checked.

☐ All Flower Seeds ☐ Mixed Vegetable and Flower Seeds

Name_____

Address_____

Town_____ State_____

AMERICAN SEED CO., Dept. 102, Lancaster, Pa.

Please send me your Big Prize Book and one order of 48 packs of American Seeds. I'll sell them at 15c a pack, send you the money and choose my prize. Send seeds checked.

☐ All Flower Seeds ☐ Mixed Vegetable and Flower Seeds

Name_____

Address_____

Town_____ State_____

EXTRA! WIN A GRAND AWARD
in our $1800.00 PROMPTNESS CONTEST

You have an opportunity to win an RCA Victor TV Set, a Motor Powered Speedmobile, Stereo Record Player or $100.00 in cash. Information sent with Big Prize Book and Seeds. Be prompt! Mail coupon now!

RCA VICTOR TV

MOTOR POWERED SPEEDMOBILE

STEREO HI-FI RECORD PLAYER

$100 IN CASH